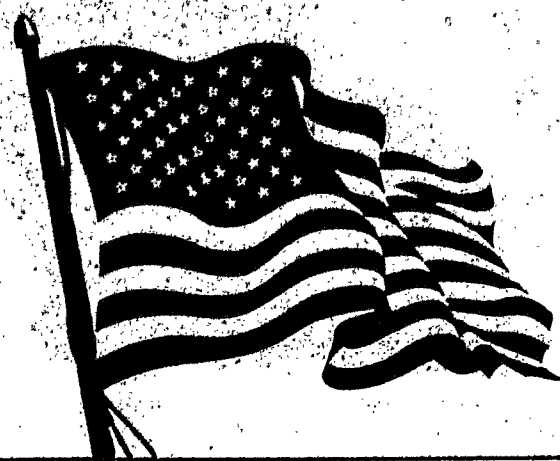
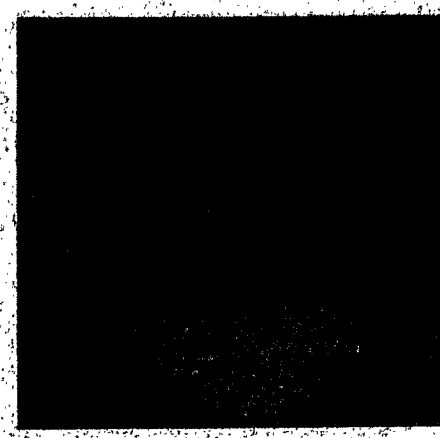


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Taking Center Stage

Pass Christian director dedicates his life to local theatre productions.
Community, Page 1B



The Hancock County Library System offers
'Labat: A Creole Legacy.'
Story, Photos, 12A

The Sea Coast Echo

Since 1892

VOL. 112, NO. 10 BAY ST. LOUIS, MISSISSIPPI WWW.SEACOASTECHO.COM TWO SECTIONS, 24 PAGES 75 CENTS

Sunday
Feb. 2, 2003

Bay Dixie softball registration all month

The Bay Dixie Fastpitch Softball league will host registration every Saturday in February, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at McDonald Field in Bay St. Louis. You can also register at Gerald Rigby, CPA, in BSL and Southern Printing in Pass Christian.

Pass Isles Boil Water Advisory now lifted

The Boil Water Advisory issued Jan. 24 for Pass Christian Isles has been lifted. Multiple tests by the state Dept. of Health Laboratory indicate the water now meets the standards of the Safe Drinking Water Law.

Greater Mt. Zion AME hosts 'Four Gospels'

The Greater Mt. Zion AME Church, 16223 3rd St. in Pearlinton, invites all to attend the Four Gospels Fellowship program today at 3 p.m.

WHAT'S INSIDE

Editorial Page 4A
Obituaries Page 8A
Sports Pages 10-11A
Classified Pages 9-11B

TIDES
DAY HIGH LOW
Feb. 2, 2003
Thurs. 2:39 a. 11:05 a.
5:07 p.
Fri. 3:09 a. 1:28 a.
4:44 p. 7:44 a.
Sat. 5:06 p. 4:27 a.
Sun. 5:44 p. 5:06 a.

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Doctors 'encouraged' by legislature

Walkout could end within the week

BY GEOFF BELCHER
News Editor

The good news is, Coast surgeons may be back on call as early as some time this week. The bad news is - even if doctors do go back to work - it's going to be a long

healing process.

At 7 a.m. last Monday, surgeons all over Harrison and Hancock County began staging a "walkout" in response to the high cost and frequent unavailability of medical malpractice insurance. Both the

Harrison and Hancock boards of supervisors declared a state of local emergency, and asked Gov. Ronnie Musgrove to declare the emergency state-wide.

12 surgeons and several other doctors took leaves of absence - they cannot legally go on strike - to try to send a message to Musgrove

DOCS--PAGE 7A

What do you think?

The recent Coast-wide physician's walkout has become a state-wide controversy. Tell us what you think. Log on to our website, www.seacoastecho.com, and answer our poll question: "Do you support the doctors' walkout?"

Tour de Force

Bay Magic hosts 'perfect' state tourism conference

BY SHANNON JENKINS
Staff Writer

Several hundred representatives of the tourism industry became tourists themselves during the Mississippi Tourism Association's (MTA) Governor's Conference on Tourism Jan. 28-31 at Casino Magic Bay St. Louis.

The conference, "The Voice and Faces of Tourism," recognized the vital role "tourism professionals play in the growth and development of the industry and the contribution made to the state's economy."

Fred Ruder, MTA president, said the conference rotates around the state each year, and it was decided 18 months ago that the conference would be held on the Coast.

The Flowood resident said a selection committee looked at several facilities on Coast and decided Casino Magic Bay St. Louis was "perfectly designed for



Gov. Ronnie Musgrove praises fellow Mississippians for their role in the state's tourism during the Mississippi Tourism Association's annual awards for tourism conference at Casino Magic on Thursday.

TOURISM--PAGE 7A

Fred Ruder, President of the Mississippi Tourism Association, and Kim Melvin, director of sales at Casino Magic Bay St. Louis, at the kick-off reception last week for the MTA's conference at the casino.



Photo courtesy of Christian Reese

MTA honors Coast with nine awards

BY JOLIE SPIERS
Gulf Coast Conventions and Visitors Bureau

Members of the Coast tourism industry and supporting regional and national media were recognized with nine state tourism awards at the Governor's Conference on Tourism, Thursday.

The Biloxi Shrimping Trip was named Travel Attraction of the Year. Several national tour companies wrote testimonials to support the nomination of the Biloxi Shrimping Trip

AWARDS--PAGE 7A

Hunters lost & found in Logtown

4 men, 1 child located after intense search

BY ELLIS C. CUEVAS
Publisher Emeritus

An all-out search in the Logtown area of the Buffer Zone was conducted in the early hours of Saturday for five Bay St. Louis residents, reported lost at 12:51 a.m. by the wife of one of the raccoon hunters, according to Sheriff's Chief of Patrol Bobby Underwood.

"When I arrived on the scene, Lt. Matt Sekinger had the search organized and already started," Underwood said.

"Apparently three went into the woods hunting in the Logtown area. When they did not return, two others tried to locate them."

FOUND--PAGE 7A

Police wrap up 'Delight'

BY GEOFF BELCHER
News Editor

Officers of the Bay-Waveland Narcotics Task Force probably took some "delight" in a drug arrest last week, capturing the last suspect wanted in their months-long "Afternoon Delight" drug roundup.

Jack Ryan Vincent of Bookter St. in Bay St. Louis, 22, was arrested last week an charged with one

DELIGHT--PAGE 7A

'... And Peace Be With You.'

Peace Rosary celebrations every first Friday open to those of all faiths

BY BENNIE SHALLBETTER
Staff Writer

The service will be held at Our Lady of the Gulf Catholic Church, but the message is not just for Catholics, it is universal. Organizers of the Peace Rosary hope that people of all religions and walks of life will attend a service they plan to hold every first Friday of the month, beginning February 7th at 7 p.m.

The service will begin with a procession conducted by the Knights of Columbus with the Rosary being lead by Helene Moran. The service will also include prayers for those men and women serving in the armed forces. The message is simple but powerful, hope for peace.

Organizers chose the form of the Rosary service because, they say, it is a traditional meditation that joins the human race to God through Mary, Mary the traditional Queen of Peace.

In the twentieth century Mary has spread her message of peace through apparitions at such places of pilgrimage as Lourdes and Fatima, where the faithful come by the millions each year to witness Mary's message for the future. The authenticity of the shrines is widely recognized by the Church.

At Lourdes Mary is said to have appeared to Bernadette Soubirous with a Rosary in her hands. But



Echo staff photo by Bennie Shallbetter

The shrine to Mary at St. Augustine Seminary in Bay St. Louis.

in 1917 at Fatima, when she appeared to the three children Lucia, Francisco and Jacinta in rural Portugal, her message was clear, pray the Rosary each day for world peace.

At that time World War I

was already raging in Europe. The event re-established the true value of the rosary, a method for prayer used in the Catholic church for centuries, the decades representing the mysteries of joy, light, sorrow and

glory, meditations on the life of Jesus.

Prayer beads are used in many of the world's religions. As a matter of fact, history tells us that Christianity (coincident with Islam) was the last of the world's great religions to develop some sort of prayer counting system.

The first acknowledged prayer counter is in a stone bas-relief at Nineveh dating from the ninth century B.C. The artifact shows two winged females standing before a sacred tree in the attitude of worship. Each carries in her left hand something that looks like a Rosary of today. The great religions of the world all contain a variation of prayer beads.

The message of the service, organizers say, is timely. With the world in turmoil and war looming over the horizon, now, not later is the time to pray for peace; peace within ourselves; peace within our communities; peace within our country and peace within in the world. If we find peace within ourselves then it will spread out from each of us to blanket the world.

Historical sources for this article include *The History and Devotion of the Rosary*, *Fatima The Great Sign* and *Fatima The Story Behind the Miracles*.

If you would like more information on the Peace Rosary please call 467-0151.

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For any person that has information concerning the present location and the person that stole a 2002 Honda 350 4x4 TRX ES (VIN#478TE254X2A209872) during the night of Thursday, January 16, 2003 from 17299 Old Joe Moran Road in the Kiln. The four wheeler is red with a black seat.

If you can help in the matter, please call (228) 255-3082 any time of the day or night.

Lang to chair Save Our Children board

ECHO STAFF REPORT

Geraldine Lang was unanimously elected last week to the position of chairwoman of the Advisory Committee by the Board of Directors of the Hancock County Task Force to Save Our Children.

Duties of the chairman include advising the board of methods of operation, and of persons who could best assist with programs and in meeting the organization's financial requirements.

The board also requested that Lang be active on the Fund Raising Committee.

Lang served previously as Chairman of the Board.

Lang said that she is working with consultants on several possible grants for the organization, but that right now the organization needs help locally. She took a first step by drafting a letter to the mayor and council members of Bay St. Louis with a \$5,000 funding request.

What is important for people to remember, Lang said, is that this is for the children.

"Our purpose, our only purpose, is to help the chil-

dren and in order to do this we have to have help. Any amount of help will be appreciated," she said. If you are interested in help-

ing Save Our Children continue their work for the youth of Hancock County call Lang at 467-9586 or the Center at 466-0401.

Coast Chorale heading for concert in New York City

ECHO STAFF REPORT

The Coast Chorale will travel to New York for an appearance at Carnegie Hall on Feb. 13.

Under the direction of Bay St. Louis resident Joy Mehrtens, the chorale has been rehearsing since Aug. 20, 2002, for its appearance.

Once in New York, the group will perform under the direction of John Rutter, a world renowned composer/conductor.

The Coast Chorale will join several other musical ensembles from around the country and will premiere Rutter's "Psalm 150," which was composed for Queen Elizabeth II's Golden Jubilee.

This piece was the anthem for her majesty on

the occasion of the Golden Jubilee on June 4, 2002.

Melanie Marshall, of the UK, who recorded Rutter's "Feel the Spirit" with the Cambridge Singers, will also perform.

Coast Chorale will perform "Feel the Spirit," a cycle of spirituals arranged by Rutter directly following "Psalm 150."

The ensemble has also prepared an encore for this concert — Rutter's arrangement of "Skylark."

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Arrests

Editor's note: The following is a list of arrests made by the Hancock County Sheriff's Office on February 1, 2003. The log is not intended to be a mere list of names, but a record of the law enforcement agency's activities.

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Arrest Record

Editor's note: The following is a complete list of arrests logged at the Hancock County Justice Facility from Jan. 24 to Jan. 31. Appearance on the jail log is not indicative of guilt, merely a record that an arrest has been made.

ECHO STAFF REPORT

- Fabian Collins, 50, DUI (1st), careless driving
- Vickie E. Ainsworth, 45, contempt of court (failure to pay), (warrant)
- Bernard Toulliet, 39, simple assault (domestic)
- Robin Toulliet, 25, simple assault (domestic)
- Larry Moran, 24, malicious mischief, (warrant)
- Patricia Dawn Lowery, 28, uttering forgery
- Steve Frickie, 35, disturbance of a family, (warrant)
- David Joseph Bourgeois, 47, public drunk
- Luther Heidleberg Jr., 42, contempt of court (failure to appear), (warrant)
- Timothy Allen Reid, 32, contempt of court (failure to appear), (warrant)
- Larry A. Bruns, 38, shoplifting, hold for Shreveport, La.
- Maurice Shelby, 23, hold for Mississippi Department of Corrections
- Hulon Lumpkin, 59, trespassing, (warrant)
- David R. Burgess, 38, simple assault (domestic), (warrant)
- Thomas J. Lawless, 41, contempt of court (failure to appear)
- Michael Edward Reis Jr., 26, simple assault
- Shane Clifford Reis, 25, simple assault, disorderly conduct, resisting arrest
- Elizabeth M. Seal, 22, disturbance of family (domestic)
- Elton Morris, 27, simple assault (domestic)
- Michael Cardarelli II, 40, hold for Indiana
- Gene Jackson, 37, resisting arrest by flight, driving while driver's license suspended
- Kelly J. Atwood, 39, public drunk, public profanity
- Mike Thomas (a.k.a. Michael Mabon), 19, no driver's license, improper tag, switched tag, possession of stolen vehicle, contempt of court (failure to appear), receiving stolen property, (warrant)
- Diana L. Saucier, 38, hold for secret service, (parole violation)
- Oscar Martin McCall, 25, contempt of court (failure to appear), (warrant)
- David R. Held, 27, contempt of court, careless driving, driving while driver's license suspended, hold for Pearl River County
- David Howe, 68, simple assault (domestic)
- Aubrey B. Smith, 50, domestic dispute
- Larry K. Abbott, 27, simple assault (domestic)
- John A. Payne, 53, careless driving, DUI (1st)
- Donald R. Luxich, 34, public drunk, disorderly conduct
- Arthur David McDole, 72, DUI (1st), disregard for traffic device
- Charles W. Bruns III, 42, DUI (1st), obstructing traffic, improper tag, (parole violation)
- Preston R. Stephens, 33, simple assault (domestic)
- Michael Joseph Bullock, 23, malicious mischief, trespassing, simple assault by threat
- Edward Allen Carver, 35, probation violation
- Christopher J. Leitz, 24, contempt of court (failure to appear), (warrant)
- John M. Stephens, 37, burglary
- Larry J. House, 30, DUI (2nd), careless driving, driving while driver's license suspended
- Travis Allen, 23, contempt of court, (warrant)
- Michael A. Perkins, 35, shoplifting
- Bryan C. Cooper, 19, DUI (1st) (other), speeding, simple possession
- Adrian Saucier, 38, public drunk
- Brian J. Garrett, 26, DUI (1st)
- Robert A. Bourn, 30, shoplifting, resisting arrest
- Allen Read, 48, domestic violence, disorderly conduct

ver's license, improper tag, switched tag, possession of stolen vehicle, contempt of court (failure to appear), receiving stolen property, (warrant)

- Karen M. Schustz, 47, DUI (other), stop sign, careless driving
- Andrew S. Sedor, 34, DUI (1st)
- Ester E. Smith, 46, trespassing, simple assault by threat, (warrant)
- Jean Marc Lepain, 53, DUI (1st), careless driving
- Jamie D. Roberts, 29, possession of controlled substance
- Dean Walsworth, 57, trespassing, (warrant)
- Michael Heasley, 27, contempt of court (failure to appear)
- David Aaron McDowell, 36, DUI (1st), refused test, improper equipment, failure to yield to blue lights
- John M. Foucha, 37, disturbing the peace
- Michael T. Copeland, 32, DUI (1st), contempt of court, (warrant)
- Angela Holland, 37, parole violation
- Frances X. Waguespack, 62, contempt of court, (warrant)
- Toni S. Colvin, 28, DUI (1st), refused test, no driver's license, careless driving
- Donna S. Swint, 52, DUI (1st), refused test, disregard for traffic device
- Christie L. Adams, 37, DUI (2nd) (other)

Coast Guard Aux. officer offers free boating



J.J. Johnson

THE SEA COAST ECHO
J. J. Johnson, public affairs officer, U.S.C.G. Auxiliary Flotilla 35, Pass Christian, will be giving a series of lectures to various service organizations along the Mississippi Gulf Coast beginning Tuesday, Feb. 4, at the Hancock County Kiwanis Club and continuing during the next few weeks.
The subject: "Boating Safety & Seamanship."

A series of boating safety courses will be offered beginning March 11 from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Coast Guard Station on Hwy. 90 in Gulfport.

These courses are free, and all persons connected with boating are urged to attend.

Families are welcome to attend. For details, call 228-452-7810, 452-2487 or 216-2909.

La. man busted for pills in Pass

BY SHANNON JENKINS
Staff Writer

A Louisiana man spent Thursday night in the Harrison County Jail after a Pass Christian K-9 officer discovered two bags and one bottle of pills in his truck.

According to a Pass Christian Police report, K-9 officer Josh McConnell stopped John Bouey, of Mandeville, for running a

stop sign around 9:46 p.m. Thursday.

McConnell searched the vehicle with Bouey's permission; he found 29 oxycodone, 43 Lortab and five methadone.

The officer arrested Bouey and placed him in jail under a \$15,492 bond. The oxycodone and methadone were felony possession of a controlled substance.

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Program for elderly at St. Matthews today

BY ELLIS C. CUEVAS
Publisher Emeritus

A Hancock County Sheriff Department program for older and retired citizens will be held at 5 p.m. today, Sunday, February 2, at St. Matthews Catholic Church, White Cypress Community, according to Sheriff Steve Garber.

The program is to provide information for the elderly on their safety needs. The program is funded through a grant received by the sheriff's department from the Mississippi Leadership Council on Aging.

The Hancock County Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP), works with the sheriff's department on the grant.

Those attending will be

provided with photo a identification card, which also contains family information in case of emergencies.

Hancock Investigator Matt Barnett is the program coordinator.

Barnett said, "We will be providing information on how retired and elderly can better protect themselves from scams of all types, frauds, burglaries, etc."

Sunday's program is one of several which are being given throughout the county by the sheriff's department.

Any civic, community, or organization interested in further information can contact Garber, or Barnett by calling 228-467-5101, Kiln sub-station, 228-568-0713, or in the Picayune exchange area, 601-798-8555.

Nereids parade set Feb. 23

The Krewe of Nereids parade will roll on February 23 at 1 p.m. The parade will follow its traditional route on Highway 90 in Waveland. All those interested in entering the parade can obtain an application at the Hancock County

Chamber of Commerce in Bay St. Louis. While there is no entry fee, participants must show proof of insurance before riding. For more, contact Janette Handshoe at 831-5689 or Doloris Richmond at 467-9057.



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OPINION

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2003

pg 4A



Cuevas' Quotes

by Ellis C. Cuevas
Publisher Emeritus

It's Mardi Gras parade time again

February is already here, and Mardi Gras is not long to follow.

Next Saturday evening the Krewe of Selene of Diamondhead is set to parade at 6:30 p.m.

On Sunday, February 23, the Krewe of Nereids followed by Eros and the Krewe of Hancock is set for 1 p.m. from the Kmart Shopping Center in Waveland along Highway 90.

The Krewe of Diamondhead is set for noon on Saturday, March 1.

St. Paul's Carnival Association in Pass Christian is scheduled for noon on Sunday, March 2.

On Fat Tuesday, Mardi Gras Day, the Krewe of Real People is set to roll through the streets of Bay St. Louis beginning at 1 p.m.

In between we have the Bay-Waveland Headstart, the Krewe of Kids, the Bay Catholic parade and other area parades.

So folks need to get their walking shoes ready for the big Mardi Gras celebrations which take place in our area, as well as those in New Orleans, Mobile, Gulfport and Biloxi.

February and March is partying time for folks along the Coast from New Orleans to Mobile.

Persons interested in entering the annual Krewe of Hancock parade, which follows the Krewe of Nereids' on Sunday, February 23, at 1 p.m., can obtain an application from the Hancock County Chamber of Commerce in Bay St. Louis.

There is no entry fee, but participants must show proof of insurance before riding. For more information contact Janette Handshoe at 228-831-5689, or Deloris Richmond at 467-9057.

The Krewe of Diamondhead parade will be March 1, and participants are sought for that parade.

Parade Lieutenant Ray Sheehy is looking for floats, marching units, golf cart or another type of participation. Give Sheehy a call at 255-6922 for further information on the Diamondhead parade.

It will not be too long before the annual Spring Pilgrimage along the Mississippi Gulf Coast.

In preparation for the Pilgrimage, the Hancock County Chamber of Commerce will once again sponsor a countywide cleanup.

We will be giving you more information as the time nears.

It is great that more and more folks are beginning to become concerned about the appearance of our county.

On the other hand we are still looking for other folks to join us.

Fighting for Mississippi is a full-time job

On the Senate floor, Senator Cochran and I recently led a successful effort to soundly defeat a Senate amendment that would have been a blow to flood control plans in the Mississippi Delta, specifically the Yazoo Backwater Pump project.

With no regard to the many poor Mississippi residents whose homes and businesses are threatened by the flooding which the pump would control, the amendment was offered by a Senator from the dry, mountainous, desert state of Arizona.

Needless to say, Arizona is a place with weather patterns, economic makeup, geography and natural disasters much different from that found in our Mississippi Delta.



From the Senate

By U.S. Sen. Trent Lott

Though many of our fellow Americans may not live with or fully comprehend the threat of floods, Mississippians have coped with flooding throughout our history.

In fact, during the "Great Flood" of 1927, flood waters killed more than 500 people, leaving 700,000 people homeless and 27,000 square miles under water.

In response to this event, Congress passed the Flood Control Act of 1929, making flood protection in the Mississippi Valley a federal responsibility. Part of this plan called for the construction of the Yazoo Backwater Pump - a project authorized in 1941 to reduce flooding in the south Delta, which is today one of our nation's poorest areas.

The project makes sense because almost half of the continental United States drains through the Delta. We are in the neck of a huge natural funnel which gives us very fertile soil, but at the same time it threatens lives with flooding.

A trained engineer, former Mississippi Governor Kirk Fordice once remarked that flooding was one of the

worst kinds of natural disasters, and I agree.

When flood waters get into a home, the home is virtually uninhabitable thereafter. The smell from the receding water is awful. The sediment is almost impossible to remove.

Poisonous snakes, like water moccasins, often get into the home and bed there. Recovering from a flood can take months or even years.

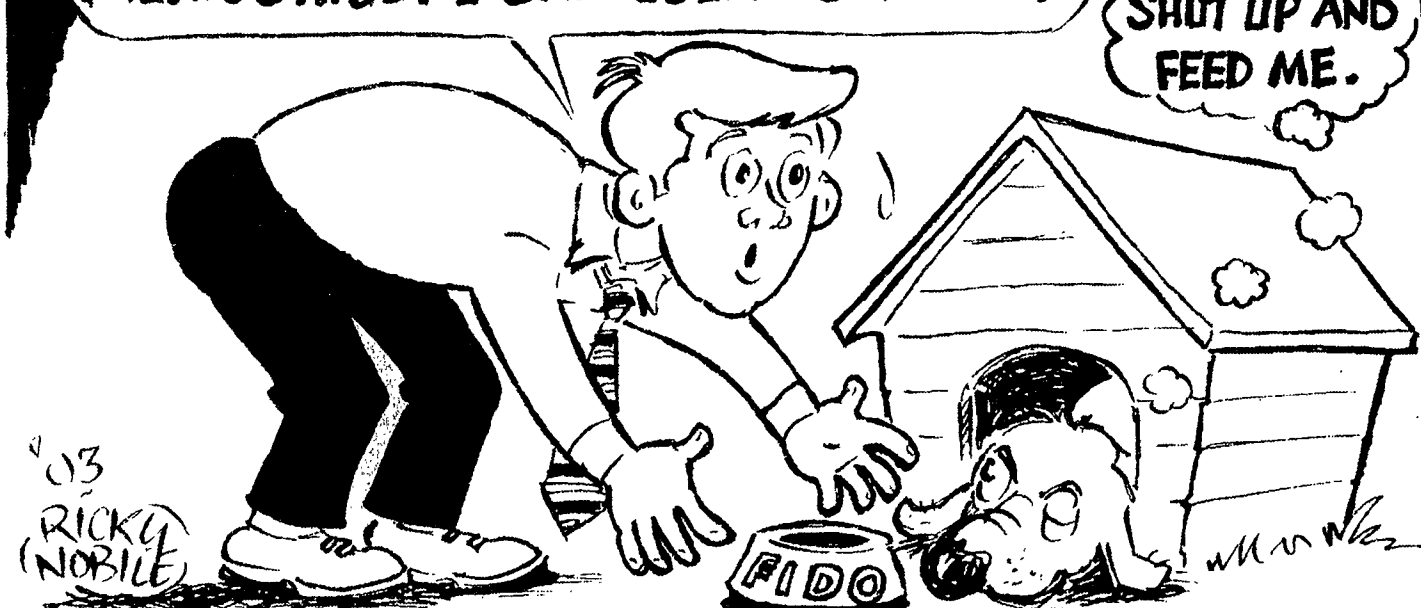
Since passage of Flood Control Act of 1929, we have made great strides against flooding, but much remains to be done, particularly in the south Delta.

The five counties that will directly benefit from the Yazoo Pump -

LOTT-PAGE 5A

MISSISSIPPI TODAY

MY DOCTOR'S ON STRIKE! MY INSURANCE COMPANY'S LEFT THE STATE AND MY JOB'S GONE TO MEXICO!.. BUT I CAN COUNT ON YOU!



Technicalities

By State Auditor Phil Bryant

COUNTIES

Q Does a board of supervisors have authority to establish a quarterly budget allocation for the chancery clerk's office?

A No. Sections 19-25-13 and 27-1-9 provide for a board of supervisors to establish quarterly budget allocations for the sheriff, tax collector, and tax assessor, but the board's authority would not extend to establishing a quarterly budget allocation for the office of the chancery clerk. (Attorney General's opinion to Crook dated November 1, 2002)

Q May a justice court judge impose jail cost to be assessed against a defendant on a per day basis?

A No. Section 25-7-25 provides for the costs and fees that a justice court judge may charge. There is no provision for a justice court judge to charge a jail cost as a cost of court for each day that a defendant is incarcerated.

(Attorney General's opinion to Nowak dated October 25, 2002)

Q Can a chancery clerk

pay constable fees sent from the justice court without board of supervisors approval?

A No. The board of supervisors authorizes payment of constable's fees through the claims docket. (Attorney General's opinion to Fanner dated October 25, 2002)

Q Can a county enter into a contract which waives rights, binds to arbitration, waives damages, or other limiting provisions?

A No. The state and its political subdivisions are governed by constitutional constraints, including the prohibition against diminishing or relinquishing an obligation or claim held or owed by the state as set forth in Miss. Const. Art. 4, Section 100. (Attorney General's Opinion to Chamberlin dated October 18, 2002)

Q What is the deadline for expenditures of fees earned in 2002 by chancery and circuit clerks?

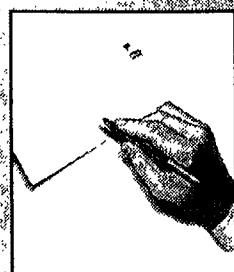
A All expenditures of fees earned in 2002 by chancery and circuit clerks must be paid no later than December 31, 2002. (\$9-1-43)

Q From what source of

Letters to the Editor

Our letters policy

The Sea Coast Echo welcomes comments from its readers. Letters must be signed and include address or telephone number. Letters should be brief, preferably typewritten and double-spaced. Only one letter per writer per month. The editor reserves the right to edit or reject letters. Letters of thanks, expressions of appreciation and political endorsements are inappropriate.



funds may the tax assessor and/or his assistants be paid additional compensation for appraisal certifications?

A Section 27-3-52(3) clearly requires that they "shall be paid out of the common county fund from the proceeds of the one (1) mill ad valorem tax as provided in Section 27-39-329" which is predicated on the assumption that all the necessary requirements of Section 27-39-329 have been fulfilled. (Attorney General's opinions to Wetzel dated Jan. 22, 1986 and to Williams, Feb. 5, 1986)

SCHOOLS

Q Does a school district have the discretion to

deduct or not deduct from the salary of a licensed employee injured during the course and scope of his or her employment once the absences exceed any accumulated paid leave the employee may have?

A The payment of the regular salary of an employee who is disabled due to a job-related injury, or payment of the difference between the employee's regular salary and the workers' compensation benefit received after the employee has exhausted all accrued sick leave and personal leave would constitute an unauthorized donation. (Attorney General's Opinion to Adams dated October 4, 2002)

The Sea Coast Echo

USPS 487-100

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Derelict crab trap cleanup a huge success

THE SEA COAST ECHO

From Jan. 21-25 the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources (DMR), the Gulf Coast Research Laboratory (GCRL) and volunteers removed a total of 1,429 abandoned crab traps from Mississippi's marine waters.

"It was a very successful first effort. We had excellent cooperation from the fishermen," said DMR Fisheries Biologist Bill Richardson.

Mississippi's first closed season for crab traps began Jan. 14 at 6 a.m. and reopened Jan. 26 at 6 a.m. Licensed recreational and commercial crab trap fishermen were allowed to remove their traps from the water during the first seven days of the closure. After Jan. 20, any traps remaining in public waters were considered abandoned and subject to removal.

DMR, GCRL and Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission biologists spent Jan. 21 - 25 collecting and surveying the derelict traps, collecting bycatch information and returned 1,454 live crabs to the water. Other species found in the wire mesh cages used to catch crabs included mullet, flounder, toadfish, red drum, gray snapper, sheepshead, diamondback terrapin, cormorant, stone crabs and a rat.

Mississippi's first volunteer Derelict Crab Trap



Photos courtesy of the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources
Mississippi Department of Marine Resources employees Rudy Ballus, left, maneuvers a boat to help Buddy Goff, center, and Doug Drielling remove a derelict crab traps from the West Pascagoula River on Jan. 25, 2003. A total of 553 abandoned traps were recovered during Mississippi's first volunteer Derelict Crab Trap Cleanup Day.

Cleanup Day was held Jan. 25 - the final day of the Mississippi closed crab trap season. Despite the extremely cold temperatures and low tides

Some 38 volunteers from Mississippi, Alabama, and Louisiana used 18 vessels to scour the marine waters and deposited 533 traps at the three derelict trap collection sites.

At the Bayou Caddy Launching Ramp site in Waveland eight traps were collected by two volunteers; Ocean Springs Harbor site in Ocean Springs brought in 83 traps by eight volunteers

and at Tucei's Fishing Camp in Gautier 442 traps were collected by 29 volunteers. The Mississippi Soft Drink Association donated bottled water for volunteers.

Crab traps were removed from the open Mississippi Sound and the following areas:

- Jackson County
- East and West Pascagoula River
- Graveline Bayou and Lake
- Davis Bayou
- Harrison County
- Biloxi Bay
- Hancock County

- St. Louis Bay
- Bayou Caddy
- Heron Bay

Recovered traps were taken to a recycling facility by the DMR.

The Derelict Crab Trap Removal Program, a joint effort of the DMR and GCRL, was funded by the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality through the Mississippi Coastal Impact Assistance Program (CIAP). CIAP is a federally sponsored program that provides money for the state and counties to address statewide coastal issues.

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\$550	\$6,600	\$13,200	\$19,800	\$33,000
\$600	\$7,200	\$14,400	\$21,600	\$36,000
\$650	\$7,800	\$15,600	\$23,400	\$39,000
\$700	\$8,400	\$16,800	\$25,200	\$42,000
\$750	\$9,000	\$18,000	\$27,000	\$45,000
\$800	\$9,600	\$19,200	\$28,800	\$48,000
\$850	\$10,200	\$20,400	\$30,600	\$51,000
\$900	\$10,800	\$21,600	\$32,400	\$54,000
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'Great Books' will view film 'Sorry, wrong number'

THE SEA COAST ECHO

The next Great Books discussion group meeting will feature a showing of the film, *Sony, Wrong Number*.

The meeting will be Wednesday, February 5, at 7 p.m. in the Seal Meeting Room of the Bay St. Louis-Hancock County Library.

The group is currently studying the volume, *24 Favorite One Act Plays*, and the movie is based on a play they recently read. The Bay St. Louis-Hancock County Library has several copies available for check-out.

Filed in 1948, the film by Lucille Fletcher, stars

Barbara Stanwyck. The public is invited to attend the showing.

Sponsored by the Hancock County Library System, the discussion group began in March, 1990. Since that time, members have read more than 345 titles and they have completed 110 readings from great books (Plato, Hobbes, Locke deTocqueville), Mississippi fiction, play readings and 20 philosophical questions. The group meets every other Wednesday at 7 p.m.

The Great Books Foundation was established

in 1947 by University of Chicago Chancellor Robert Maynard Hutchins. Its mission is to provide people of all ages, backgrounds and walks of life with the opportunity to read, discuss and learn from outstanding works of literature.

Today, more than 20,000 adults are members of Great Books discussion groups, and nearly one million students participate in Junior Great Books groups for grades kindergarten through 12.

Anyone is welcome to attend the meetings. The only requirement is that

you read the selection before the meeting. For information, call Sheila Cork at 467-5282.



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Lott -- fighting for MS

Continued from Page 4A

Humphreys, Issaquena, Sharkey, Washington, and Yazoo - are in great need of economic development and job creation.

Yet, it is hard to create jobs in an area susceptible to chronic flooding. As the Delta's own Clarksdale Press Register newspaper recently noted, it is impossible to separate the area's double-digit unemployment from the threat of flooding, "because the flood prone area is virtually useless for residential or commercial purposes, including agriculture."

Thus, without the Yazoo Pump, the economy of the south Delta could remain repressed indefinitely.

Critics of the Yazoo pump consist of a hodgepodge of environmental extremists, Washington bureaucrats and liberal editorial writers

- mostly from outside the Mississippi Delta.

Even though the Yazoo Pump would help reforest more than 62,000 acres, protect more than 1,000 homes, and prepare the way for much needed new jobs, critics stubbornly contend the pump benefits only "wealthy planters."

The only alternative they offer south Delta residents is to just move - leave homes, businesses and family history behind in a government-forced sellout.

That doesn't sound like much of a plan to me, and I suspect it would be even less attractive to folks in the south Delta whose homes or businesses would be taken. Similar pumps are already in operation.

In fact the W.G. Huxtable Pump in Arkansas is almost the same size as the Yazoo

will be, but drains only half the acreage that the Yazoo pump will. The Yazoo will protect 2.6 million acres, while the Huxtable plant drains only 1.3 million acres.

I am proud to stand with Congressman Bennie Thompson and Senator Cochran in bipartisan support of the Yazoo Pump. Our job is to fight for people in Mississippi, not for those outside our state who have little appreciation for the unique natural and economic challenges facing Mississippians, particularly people in our Mississippi Delta.

Senator Lott welcomes any questions or comments about this column. Write to: U.S. Senator Trent Lott, 487 Russell Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510 (Attn: Press Office)

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More people eligible for EITC; volunteers, IRS.gov stand ready to help

The Internal Revenue Service reminds taxpayers that changes in the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) law will expand the number of low-income working taxpayers, especially military personnel, who qualify for tax relief.

The IRS urged taxpayers to review EITC requirements to determine their eligibility.

February marks the month in which a peak number of EITC claims are filed. The IRS is working to provide help in several ways:

- Local offices in Jackson and Gulfport will be open Saturdays Feb. 8, Feb. 15 and Feb. 22 specifically to help people with EITC Claims.

- Tax assistance sites operated by volunteers will begin opening in February.

- Taxpayers can visit IRS.gov to see if they qualify for free Internet tax preparation and electronic filing through IRS Free File.

"More hard-working Americans can receive tax relief or even a tax refund because of changes in this credit. We want all those who are eligible, but only those who are eligible, to apply," said Acting IRS Commissioner Bob Wenzel.

"The IRS and its network of volunteers are ready to help taxpayers complete

accurate returns on this complex issue."

For a complete list of EITC requirements, taxpayers should review Publication 596, which is available on IRS.gov or by calling 1-800-TAX-FORM (1-800-829-3676).

Publication 596 contains a worksheet that helps taxpayers determine their eligibility. Also, taxpayers can use IRS.gov (www.irs.gov/eitc) to answer questions and determine eligibility.

According to the IRS, 343,146 Mississippi taxpayers claimed the EITC for tax year 2001, and received \$678,228,569 in earned income tax credit.

Both the income limits and the maximum credit have increased for the 2002 tax year with the automatic cost of living calculations. To be eligible for a full or partial credit, a taxpayer must have an adjusted gross income of less than:

- \$33,178 (\$34,178 married filing jointly) and two or more qualifying children;
- \$29,202 (\$30,202 MFJ) and one qualifying child;
- \$11,060 (\$12,060 MFJ) with no children.

The maximum earned income credit is \$4,140 for families with two or more qualifying children, \$2,506 for families with one qualifying child and \$376 for an individual without children.

Among the significant changes for the 2002 tax year was a redefinition of what constitutes earned income. Now, earned income no longer includes nontaxable income such as military pay for housing, subsistence allowances or combat.

The change will expand the number of military personnel who may be eligible for the credit. Also benefiting are people who participate in salary deferral plans such as 401(k) and Thrift Savings or people who receive employer-provided benefits such as dependent care benefits.

Other significant changes include:

- Income calculations will be based on adjusted gross income, not modified adjusted gross income.

- Eligible foster children must live with a guardian more than half a year, reduced from a one-year rule.

- For taxpayers who are "married filing jointly," the maximum adjusted gross income limit is \$1,000 more than other filing statuses.

- EITC is no longer reduced by the amount of any alternative minimum tax.

Under the new "tie-breaker" rule, if two people have the same qualifying child, you can choose which person will use the child to

claim EITC.

However, if you both claim the credit using the same child, the child will be treated as the qualifying child of only one person. Under the tiebreaker rule, the child can be treated as a qualifying child only by:

- The parent, if one person is the child's parent,
- The person with the highest adjusted gross income, if neither person is the child's parent,

- If both persons are parents of the child and they do not file a joint return together, the parent with whom the child lived the longest during the tax year,

- If both persons are parents of the child, they do not file a joint return together, and the child lived with both for the same length of time during the

tax year, the parent with the highest adjusted gross income.

If you and your spouse are the parents and file jointly, these rules do not apply.

Free tax help is available from many sources such as the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) and the Tax Counseling for the Elderly (TCE) programs.

The IRS is working with national organizations and community coalitions across the nation. These local partnerships will help ensure working families and individuals become aware of the tax credit and learn how to apply.

In 2002, there were 5,200 VITA sites nationwide, often located in shopping centers, libraries, universi-

ties, churches or community centers. VITA volunteers assisted more than 1.7 million taxpayers.

Many of the more than 400 IRS Taxpayer Assistance Centers, usually located in IRS local offices, will open nationwide Feb. 8, 15 and 22. The peak period coincides with the receipt of W-2 income statement forms from employers.

People who want to prepare their own tax returns should see Free File on IRS.gov. Many low-income individuals may qualify for online tax preparation and electronic filing for free as part of an IRS partnership with private-sector software firms. Individuals are under no obligation to purchase any product in return for the free services.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

Notice is hereby given that the Hancock Board County of Education will on Monday, February 17, 2003 at 5:00 p.m. hold a Public Hearing on proposed redistricting of Hancock County School District. The Public Hearing will be held in the Superintendent of Education's Office, 17304 Highway 603, Kiln, MS 39556

Public comments, both written and oral, on the proposed redistricting are invited.

A map of the redistricting proposal will be available for inspection in the Superintendent's Office prior to the hearing.

Published by Order of the Hancock County Board of Education on January 6, 2003.

Captain's meeting for Relay For Life scheduled Feb. 4 at Coast Electric

Want to help find a cure for cancer? Then gather your friends and family, put on your walking shoes and join in the American Cancer Society Relay For Life, the nation's largest fund raiser.

Relay For Life is the American Cancer Society's signature activity. During Relay For Life participants walk, run, stroll and shuffle around a track.

Anyone who wants to join us as we celebrate survivorship can camp out overnight, take part in fun-filled activities and share the spirit of uniting in the war against this disease.

Money raised from the event benefits valuable cancer research, education, advocacy and patient services - all avenues leading one day to a cure for cancer.

We invite you to be a part of Relay For Life in Hancock County. Your participation in this overnight team event

will celebrate survivorship and raise money and awareness for the fight against cancer.

You can show your enthusiasm by creating outrageous team themes, decorating

To register for Relay For Life, call (800) ACS-2345 or David Mayley at 467-4336 www.cancer.org

ing campsites, playing games and eating delicious food.

"Relay for Life raises our awareness about what we can do to fight this deadly disease, as well as raising money to bring us closer to a cure," said David Mayley,

Relay For Life chair and American Cancer Society volunteer.

"The cancer survivors remind us that we have won many battles against cancer and inspire us to march forward to win the war."

Register your team now and get involved in the fight against cancer. The next team captains' meeting is Feb. 4 at Coast Electric.

To register, call your American Cancer Society at 1-800-ACS-2345 or David Mayley at 467-4336. Visit the Web any time at www.cancer.org.

The American Cancer Society is the nationwide, community-based, voluntary health organization dedicated to eliminating cancer as a major health problem by preventing cancer, saving lives and diminishing suffering from cancer through research, education, advocacy and service.

Crews working in Coast Electric's service area

Coast Electric Power Association has contracted with Baker Engineering to perform a pole inventory assessment.

Baker Engineering employees are currently working in the Shoreline Park area of Hancock County conducting the assessment.

They will remain in Shoreline Park over the next several months or

until the assessment is complete in that area.

Baker Engineering employees will be in Coast Electric-marked vehicles and can provide appropriate identification upon request.

Any questions regarding contract work in your area should be directed to Melody White, GIS supervisor, at 483-7205 or Brian Scarborough, GIS special-

ist, at 463-7348.

Baker Engineering has been contracted for a minimum of 12 month, or until a complete pole inventory is obtained throughout Coast Electric's entire service territory.

The inventory is an important reliability tool that will help maintain and enhance Coast Electric's status as a state-of-the-art electric cooperative.

AARP tax aides to bring free tax help at libraries

The American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) Tax Aides, in conjunction with the Hancock County Library System, will begin free tax assistance at the Bay St. Louis-Hancock County Library and the Kiln Public Library.

The first session at the Bay St. Louis-Hancock

County Library will be Tuesday, February 4, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

They will be available every Tuesday and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

At the Kiln Public Library, the first session will begin Thursday, February 6, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., and they will be avail-

able every Thursday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

More information on the tax aides is available by calling the Bay St. Louis-Hancock County Library at 467-5282, or the Kiln Public Library at 255-1724.

The Hancock County Library System can be found on the World Wide Web at www.hancock.lib.ms.us.

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Tourism -- conference in the Bay

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a group this size."

"This location met all our needs," Ruder said. "The staff was probably one of the finest in terms of service, accommodations and food and beverage. And, I can say that because I've been in the hospitality industry since 1969."

Tish Williams, director of the Hancock County Chamber of Commerce, said the conference's presence in the county was very important for local businesses and Hancock residents.

"Hosting the conference is a wonderful opportunity to showcase the tourist attractiveness of Hancock County," she said. "Now, the representatives of the tourism industry have a first-hand experience on what a great the county is to visit. They can help bring business to our hotels, restaurants and retail outlets. This effects all of us. Tourism increases sales tax revenue and new business income, and it creates jobs for the people of Hancock County."

An awards ceremony was held Thursday to recognize the "outstanding contributions to the advancement of tourism by members of the 320-member private sector organizations."

Others who were honored included travel media, community volunteers and governmental friends of the industry. Award winners included the following:

- Lewis/Tyson Heavyweight Championship Tunica Media Week, "Festival/Event of the Year"

- "J-Pass" sponsored by the Jackson CVB, "Tourism Promotion of the Year"

- Biloxi Shrimping Trip, "Travel Attraction of the Year"

- Mississippi Gulf Coast CVB, "Convention and Visitors Bureau of the Year"

- Where to Retire, "Travel Media Award -- Consumer Magazine"

- Meetings and Conventions, "Travel Media Award -- Travel Trade Publication"

- The Baton Rouge Advocate, "Travel Media

Award -- Newspaper"

- Dennis Gage's My Classic Car, "Travel Media Award -- Broadcast"

- Lynn Grisard Fullman (freelance writer), "Travel Media Award -- Travel Writer"

- Nellie Caldwell (chairperson of Vicksburg Mural Committee), "Community Volunteer of the Year"

- Keesler Air Force Base, "Governmental Friend of Tourism"

- Stephen B. Richer (executive director of Gulf Coast CVB), "Tourism Achievement Award"

- Hattie Ruder (executive director of Ridgeland Tourism Commission), "MTA Member of the Year"

Gov. Ronnie Musgrove also made an appearance Thursday and gave a well-applauded speech about tourism in the state.

"I'm proud of the work you do individually and collectively throughout the state," he told the crowd. "It's up to you to make sure visitors feel at home here."

Musgrove continued to

recognize the accomplishments of the tourism professionals, as well as their important role to the state.

"You're making it possible for people all over the world to experience Mississippi," he said. "Through your commitment, (the state) will continue to prosper."

The governor also shared his belief that good education promotes tourism as well.

"Good schools attract good jobs; good jobs attract good communities," Musgrove said. "If we want to attract tourists and industries to the state, it's in the foundation of good schools."

As far as the conference being held in Hancock County, Musgrove had nothing but praise.

"We're excited that one of the premiere spots in the state was chosen to host this conference," he said. "People have commented on how good the facility is and how nice the people have been."

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Awards -- Coast cleans up

Continued from Page 1A

for its excellent tour, which highlights the Coast shrimping industry. Past Coast recipients include Lynn Meadows Discovery Center, Stennis Space Center, and Beauvoir.

Keesler Air Force Base was honored with the Governmental Friend of Tourism Award for the outstanding work of the 81st training wing, which coordinates volunteer services of airmen for local festivals and events as well as arranges special tours of KAFB for visiting guests to the Coast.

The Advocate in Baton Rouge received the Newspaper Travel Media Award. The Advocate not only diligently covers the Coast, but also highlights several other Mississippi destinations in its Sunday travel section.

Where to Retire magazine, which has named the

Coast one of the top 10 golf towns in the nation, received the Consumer Magazine Travel Media Award.

Where to Retire has also cited the Coast as one of the nation's eight great budget towns.

Dennis Gage's My Classic Car received the Broadcast Travel Media Award for its continually terrific coverage of Cruisin, the Coast.

Lynn Grisard Fullman won the Travel Writer Broadcast Media Award for her endless support of not only the Coast but also the entire state. Grisard's articles have been featured AAA Southern Traveler, Southern Breezes, Ladies' Home Journal, Better Homes & Garden, the Birmingham Family Times, and the SouthCoastUSA winter supplement, which was featured in national Mid-West publications.

Grisard also co-authored the book *Ramblin, and Gamblin*, on the Mississippi Coast.

Meetings & Conventions magazine received the Travel Trade Travel Media Award. For the past two years, the Mississippi Gulf Coast Convention & Visitors Bureau has received the M&C Golden Service Award, which recognizes excellence and professionalism by national convention and visitor bureaus within the meeting planning and convention services industry.

The Mississippi Gulf Coast CVB won the CVB of the Year Award in the over \$500,000-yearly budget category for its work over the past year with several key national meetings and conventions as well as its work with national media, the travel industry and Coast tourism partners.

Steve Richer, executive director of the Mississippi Gulf Coast CVB, was chosen for the Tourism Achievement Award. This award recognizes not only the recipient's dedication over the past year, but throughout their tourism career.

"I am extremely honored to be a part of the Coast tourism industry," Richer said. "To have our attractions, organizations, people and supporting media honored with nine out of fifteen state tourism awards is simply amazing, but it also shows the outstanding features of our destination and the hard work we have all contributed to realize its success."

Delight -- last arrest

Continued from Page 1A

count of sale of a controlled substance, "crack" cocaine, according to a statement released Friday by Waveland Police Chief James Varnell and Bay St. Louis Police Chief Frank McNeil.

Vincent was entered on the National Crime Information Computer system as "wanted for felony drug charges," according to the report. "A citizen tip led to the arrest."

Vincent was detained at the Hancock County Justice Facility under a \$10,000 bond, according to the statement, "but due to a previous

drug conviction, (Vincent) was held with no bond for parole violation in Louisiana.

The task force launched Operation: Afternoon Delight on Nov. 8 of last year, netting 14 suspects in the first day and holding warrants for a total of 21 alleged drug traffickers, tagged with a combined 41 felony charges of sale of controlled substances.

"This is the culmination of a four-month operation," Varnell said at the time, "during which undercover agents purchased narcotics from these people."

The operation was led by members of the task force, including Laura Stepro and Brett Ladner from the Waveland Police Department; and Ray Murphy and Ian Estorffe from the Bay St. Louis Police Department.

The operation also included non-task force officers from both police departments, the Mississippi Bureau of Narcotics; HIDTA; the DEA; Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms; and the Mississippi Army National Guard.

Docs -- walkout

Continued from Page 1A

and lawmakers that the current dearth of medical malpractice coverage could leave the state virtually without any physicians.

State Sen. Scottie Cuevas said last week that a short-term solution could be reached "in the next two or three weeks," hopefully by establishing a funding pool to temporarily provide the state's doctors with malpractice coverage.

On Friday, a state Senate committee approved a bill

that, if approved by the legislature, will begin a new state-sponsored insurance pool which will provide up to \$500,000 medical malpractice coverage for physicians in the state who can't get it elsewhere.

Hancock Medical Center Administrator Hal W. Leftwich, FACHE, said Saturday that "there are indications by some of the physicians that they were discouraged by what's going on in the legislature and

may come back some time early (this) week."

Leftwich said the physicians were expected to meet some time over the weekend to discuss the developments and plan their next move.

"Unfortunately," Leftwich said, "just about anything they (the state legislature) do is an intermediate fix. ... A long-term fix would really require a re-look" at the entire national insurance industry.

Found -- hunters

Continued from Page 1A

"The two was able to make contact with the three and they all were searching for a way out. The first one was located at 6:15 a.m. and voice contact made with the other four at 6:30 a.m.," Underwood added.

Underwood said the five in the woods were, Tommy Mauffray, Jr., Chris Williams, Tony Lofton, Doug Lofton and a nine-

year-old boy.

"We were able to locate the truck used by the hunters and knew they were still in the woods, when the search began. The group had been missing for four hours before the sheriff's department was notified," Underwood said.

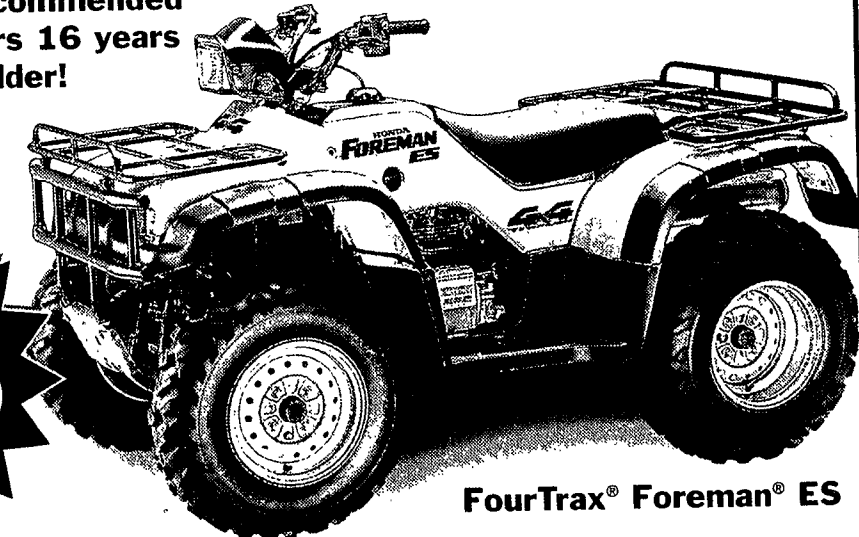
Searchers included some dozen sheriff's deputies, American

Response, and Gulf Coast Search and Rescue Volunteer Unit with four teams of dogs led by Gulfport Fire Chief Pat Sullivan.

A U.S. Coast Guard and the Harrison County Helicopter were both on standby, waiting for daylight to join the search when the group was found, Underwood said.

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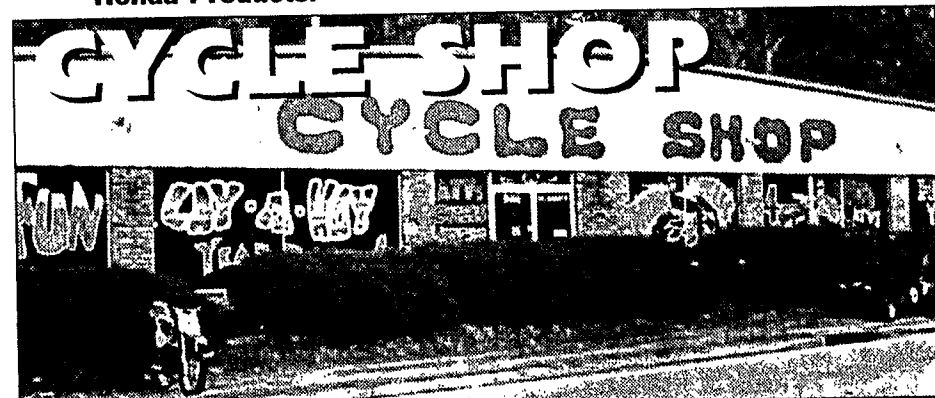
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Obituaries

**DOUGLAS
AUTHEMENT SR.**
MILDRED GRAY
ROY W. GRIFFITH
STEPHEN HARTEL
THELMA KING
LYDIA RUTHERFORD
RUTH WHITEMORE

**DOUGLAS
AUTHEMENT SR.**
Douglas James Authement Sr., 56, of Bay St. Louis, died Tuesday, Jan. 28, 2003, in Bay St. Louis.

Mr. Authement was a native of New Orleans and a resident of Bay St. Louis for over 24 years. He was a member of St. Ann Catholic Church in Clermont Harbor and of Knights of Columbus in New Orleans. He was an electrician.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Rodney Sr. and Yvette Authement; and a brother, Rodney Authement Jr.

Survivors include his wife, Barbara Authement of Bay St. Louis; a son, Douglas James Authement Jr. of Kenner; a daughter, Christine Hinkkanen of Bay St. Louis; a brother, John Authement Sr. of Mandeville; a sister, Claire Walsh of Bay St. Louis and two grandchildren.

Visitation was Wednesday at St. Ann Catholic Church in Clermont Harbor followed by a memorial service and burial in Greenwood Cemetery in New Orleans.

Riemann Funeral Home in Bay St. Louis was in charge of arrangements.

MILDRED GRAY
Mildred Catherine "Cathy" Gray, 80, of Pass Christian, died Tuesday, Jan. 28, 2003, in Pass Christian.

Mrs. Gray was a native of Waynesboro and a former

resident of Jackson. She was formerly employed in the fabric department of Wal-Mart on Pass Road in Biloxi. She was a member of Brodie Road Baptist Church in D'Iberville.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Colon R. Gray Sr.; a son, Colon R. Gray Jr.; and a brother, Cecil Butler.

Survivors include two sons, Marion "Jim" Gray, of Florence, and Marvin Gray of Pass Christian; three daughters, Kathaleen Heflin of Gulfport, Donna Andrews of Pensacola, Fla., and Sandra Schloss of Vancleave; a sister, Corrine Jones of Mobile, Ala.; 11 grandchildren; and 15 great-grandchildren.

Visitation was Thursday at Riemann Memorial Funeral Home in Biloxi followed by services and burial in Sweetman Cemetery in D'Iberville.

ROY W. GRIFFITH
Roy Wesley Griffith, 81, of Kiln, died Saturday, Feb. 1, 2003, in Bay St. Louis.

Arrangements are incomplete at the Edmond Fahey Funeral Home in Bay St. Louis.

STEPHEN HARTEL
Stephen C. Hartel, 98, of New Orleans, died Sunday, Jan. 26, 2003 in New Orleans.

Mr. Hartel was a civic leader and lawyer. He specialized in commercial law and estate planning. He earned a law degree from Loyola University in 1930 and established Hartel and Keny with John J. Keny in 1935. He retired in 1986.

A Navy lieutenant during World War II, Mr. Hartel was a former president of the Loyola Alumni Association, the New Orleans Legal Aid Bureau, the St. Thomas More Catholic Lawyers Association, the St. Elizabeth's Home Advisory Board, the Eye Foundation of America, and Academy of the Sacred Heart Fathers Club and the Cosmopolitan Club. He was a past post commander of the American Legion.

Mr. Hartel, who had a

home in Waveland, founded the St. Vincent de Paul Society at St. Clare Catholic Church in Waveland.

He was a past director of the National Conference of Christians and Jews and the Southeast Louisiana Girl Scout Council. He was also a member of the U.S. Supreme Court, American, Louisiana and New Orleans bar associations, the New Orleans Country Club, the Southern Yacht Club and the Bay-Waveland Yacht Club.

Survivors include two sons, Stephen Hartel Jr. and Joseph Hartel; two daughters, Mary Anderson and Rosary Hartel O'Neill; and 14 grandchildren.

A Mass was celebrated Jan. 28 at Lake Lawn Metairie Funeral Home. Burial was in Metairie Cemetery.

THELMA KING
Thelma Hillman King, 88, of Waveland, died Thursday, Jan. 30, 2003, in Bay St. Louis.

Mrs. King was a native of Greene County and employed as a nurse at Crosby Memorial Hospital for several years. She was a member of the Roseland Park Baptist Church.

She was preceded in death by her husband, G. B. King.

Survivors include a daughter, Mary King Becker of Waveland; a sister, Peggy McCool of Moss Point; a brother, Wirt Hillman Jr. of McClain; and two grandchildren.

Visitation was Friday evening at McDonald Funeral Home in Picayune. Services will be 10 a.m. Saturday in New Palestine Cemetery.

LYDIA RUTHERFORD
Lydia LaFontaine Rutherford, 79, of Waveland, died Friday, Jan. 31, 2003, in Waveland.

Mrs. Rutherford was a native of Lakeshore and a lifelong resident of Waveland. She was of the Catholic faith and a member of the St. Clare Catholic Church. She was a member of American Legion Aux. Post 139 in Bay St. Louis.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Linwood "Lin" Leroy Rutherford; son William Barton Rutherford; parents Sylvester and Mary Fayard LaFontaine; brothers Monroe, Russell, James and Gerald LaFontaine; and sisters Mary Bosarge and Geraldine Ingersol.

A visitation will be held Monday, 7-10 p.m., with recitation of the Rotary at 8 p.m., at the Edmond Fahey Funeral Home in Bay St. Louis.

The prayer service will be held Tuesday at 11 a.m. at the funeral home, with interment in the Garden of Memory Cemetery.

RUTH WHITEMORE
Ruth Whitmore, 77, of Bay St. Louis, MS died Wednesday, January 29, 2003, in Bay St. Louis.

She was a native of Memphis, TN and since retirement, a resident of Bay St. Louis. She was a graduate of Memphis University having a Masters' Degree. She was an elementary school teacher, member of Main Street United Methodist Church, Bay St. Louis, ALPHA Pi Sorority, and AARP.

She was preceded in death by her father, William T. Whitmore and the aunt who raised her, Mary Louise Whitmore.

Survivors include; three cousins, Wylma Weiss of Memphis, TN, Vivian Eason of Mattson, MS, and Dorothy Wiltz of Batesville, MS. Lifelong friend of Dr. Richard Tilson, Orris C. Huet, Dorothy Bizzell and Orris's nieces and nephews, and the late Virginia Morgan.

A Visitation and Prayer Service was held Thursday, January 30 at the Edmond Fahey Funeral Home in Bay St. Louis, MS.

A Visitation and Prayer Service was held Saturday, February 1 at Forest Hill Mid Town Funeral Home, Memphis, TN. Interment was at Forest Hill Mid Town Cemetery.

Edmond Fayhey Funeral Home was in charge of local arrangements.

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Story Hours titles listed in Bay, Kiln

Jungle Fun will be the theme for the children's story hour at the Bay St. Louis-Hancock County at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, February 5.

Jungle Drum, The Giraffe in my Backyard and Little Tiger's Big Surprise are the books to be read. The chil-

dren will receive a jungle coloring sheet.

Stories from Around the World is the theme for the children's story hour at the Kiln Public Library on Thursday, February 6, at 10:30 a.m.

Whoever You Are and *Seven Blind Mice* are the

books to be read during the program. Children will make a Chinese lantern.

For individual branch story hour information, contact Adrienne Bradley, Bay St. Louis-Hancock County Library, 467-5282; or Sandra Ladner, Kiln Public Library, 255-1724.

East Hancock Math-a-thon to benefit St. Jude Children's Research Hospital

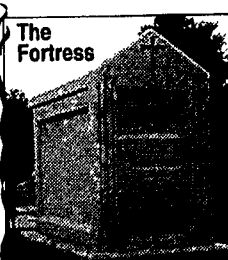
East Hancock Elementary's third grade will have a Math-A-Thon to benefit

St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. The event, scheduled to Monday, is being coordinated by Amity Graves, third grade

teacher. Any person or business who would like to make a donation may call the school at 255-6637.

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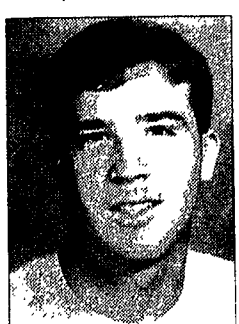
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BUSINESS NEWS

Chamber seeks nominees for Citizen of the Year Award

The Citizen of the Year Award will be presented during the Annual Salute to Business & Industry Award Gala on Friday, April 25th at Casino Magic Bay St. Louis. The deadline to submit nominations to the Hancock Chamber is February 25 at 5pm. The Award recognizes individuals whose contributions to commerce and the community help make Hancock County prosperous and progressive.

If you would like to submit a nomination, please

provide the following information: a detailed description of the nominee's contributions to the community and the impact of those contributions; examples of leadership skills and a commitment to improving the quality of life for Hancock County; and, a color photo of the nominee and the name, address and phone number of the nominator.

Nominations can be delivered or mailed to the Hancock Chamber Office at 412 Highway 90, Suite 6 (next to The People's Bank)

or emailed to: tish@hancockchamber.org.

Coffee Call Features PRCC President

The Membership Services Committee and the Education Committee of the Hancock Chamber are working together to bring members and interested citizens an informative program through the February Coffee Call.

The event, which will be held on Wednesday, February 26 at Second Street Elementary in Bay St. Louis from 7:45am-9am,

features Dr. William Lewis, President of Pearl River Community College.

Dr. Lewis will present information on the partnership between PRCC and Hancock County for Education & Workforce Development in Hancock County.

To reserve your spot, call the Hancock Chamber at 467-9048. The program is sponsored by the Bay-Waveland School District and Second Street Elementary School.

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Unemployment rate unchanged in December

The state unemployment rate was 6.1 percent in December, unchanged from November's rate, the Mississippi Employment Security Commission (MESC) announced.

Helping to hold the rate steady was a gain in the number of employed in the state during December. The number of employed rose by 3,900 during the month.

The retail trade segment, which showed strong job gains last month, added 2,100 more workers in December to accommodate holiday buying. In November some 2,700 workers were hired for the Christmas shopping season.

Job gains were also reported in December in manufacturing. There were some 600 more manufac-

ing jobs in December than in the prior month. The total number of Mississippians employed in manufacturing during December was 207,000.

As expected there were job losses in agriculture as harvest activities came to a close. Agricultural jobs dropped by 5,700 jobs.

The state's unemployed totals increased slightly

during December as 500 more Mississippians were recorded as unemployed. The state's total number of unemployed was 81,200.

Twenty-seven counties had rates lower than the state rate, lead by Rankin County which had the state's lowest rate at 3.1 percent. Lamar County had the state's second lowest rate at 3.3 percent and Oktibbeha and Jones Counties tied for the third lowest rate each recording a 3.7 percent rate.

Many counties had rate increases during December, particularly among the agricultural counties. There were 17 counties with double-digit rates lead by Issaquena County which had the state's highest rate at 15.6 percent.

Jefferson County had the second highest rate at 15.4 percent and Wilkinson County was third highest with a rate of 13.8 percent.

The national unadjusted unemployment rate for December was 5.7 percent.

Generally, the unemployment rate rises in January. Winter weather frequently hinders construction and farming and there are post holiday layoffs in retail trade.

Senator Lott to be honored at MPA foundation roast

Senator Trent Lott will be this year's guest at the Mississippi Press Association Education Foundation annual celebrity roast, which will be held Saturday, Feb. 15, 2003, at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Jackson.

The panel of roasters will include Lt. Gov. Amy Tuck, Tchula Mayor Yvonne Brown, Attorney Richard Scruggs Jr., The Scruggs Law Firm, Pascagoula, and Sen. and Mrs. Lott's daughter, Tyler Armstrong, Vice President of Programs and Special Events for the Jackson Metro Chamber of Commerce.

U.S. Sen. Trent Lott, a Republican, served as the Senate's majority leader from June 12, 1996, until June 5, 2001, and as the Senate's 16th majority leader, he was the first Mississippian to hold that post.

A native Mississippian, Sen. Lott began his political career in 1968 as Administrative Assistant to U.S. Rep. William Colmer, D-Mississippi. He was elected to the House of Representatives in 1972 and served until 1988 when he was elected to the Senate. He was re-elected to a second term in 1994 and a third term in 2000.

In the Senate, Lott serves as chairman of the Committee on Rules and Administration. He is also a member of the Select Committee on Intelligence, the Committee on Finance, and the Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation.

He was born October 9, 1941, in Grenada County, Mississippi, the son of a sharecropper farmer turned shipyard worker and a school teacher. He received his Bachelor of Science in Public Administration degree in 1963 and his Juris Doctorate in 1967 from the University of Mississippi in

Oxford. He is married to Patricia (Tricia) Thompson Lott, originally of Pascagoula. Sen. and Mrs. Lott are the parents of son, Chet, and daughter, Tyler, who have blessed them with three grandchildren: Trent, Shields Elizabeth, and Lucie Sims.

Mississippi Press Association annually sponsors a benefit roast of well-known Mississippians. Some of those roasted in previous years include Congressman G.V. "Sonny" Montgomery, Sen. Thad Cochran, Political Columnist Bill Minor,

Clarion-Ledger Perspective Editor/Columnist Sid

Salter, Chief of the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians Phillip Martin, to generate funding for its MPA Education Foundation. Monies from this foundation provide journalism scholarships and internships to some of Mississippi's best and brightest students.

A reception will begin at 6 p.m. with the banquet and roast beginning at 7 p.m.

For tickets and other information, contact Kelly Scrivner at 601-981-3060 or kscrivner@mspress.org.

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1-31-03

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CHEVRON /CVX	64.40	+ .86
COCA COLA/KO	40.46	+ 2.37
CSX CORP/CSX	28.03	+ 1.58
DUPONT/DD	37.87	+ 2.05
GENERAL ELEC/GE	23.14	+ .08
GOODYEAR TIRE/GT	5.30	- 1.16
HANCOCK HOLDING CO/HBHC	45.84	+ .54
INTL BUSINESS MACHINE/IBM	78.23	- .76
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Submitted by Craig Foster, Edward Jones Co.

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SPORTS

Dunklin heads east for football; named 1st team All-Big South

BY JOSEPH W. GEX II
Staff Writer

The game of football sometimes takes a person to far-away places. Such is the case with former St. Stanislaus standout Aaron Dunklin. The 5-11, 180-pound former Rock is a rising senior wide receiver with Charleston Southern University of the Big South Conference.

Following this past season, Dunklin was named to the first-team All-Big South Conference team after leading his squad with 45 receptions for 723 yards and six touchdowns.

Charleston Southern is a Division I-AA school that competes in a league with other schools such as Liberty University, Gordon Webb University, Coastal Carolina, and Virginia Military Institute.

Dunklin's football journey started in Bay St. Louis where he prepped at St. Stanislaus during the 1998 and 1999 season under then-head coach Dave Kenson. Dunklin helped lead his team to the state playoffs in 1998 and was also a star on the basketball court and track for the Rocks.

Dunklin stated, "St. Stanislaus prepared me very well for the academic challenges of college life. Coach Dave Kenson and Coach Jay Ladner gave me the skills and discipline that I needed to get this far. Both coaches made me work very hard and an attitude that made other people see what I can do."

Upon graduation from SSC, Dunklin tried his talent on the junior college level for the Pearl River Community College Wildcats. While at PRCC, Dunklin excelled on the gridiron and senior colleges came courting. Dunklin said that the two schools that showed the most interest were Central Arkansas

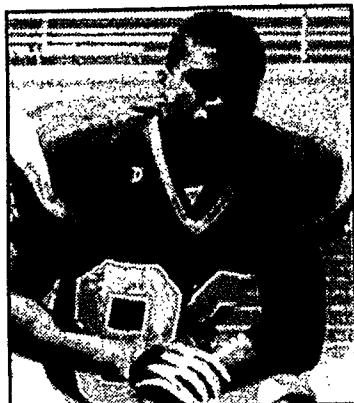


Photo courtesy of Charleston Southern University

Aaron Dunklin

and Charleston Southern, both Division I-AA schools. In the end, the east coast won his heart.

Dunklin recalled, "I wanted to move on to the senior college ranks quickly and I was able to enroll at a school in time for spring training. I made my visits to the two schools and in the end Charleston Southern won out. I felt most comfortable here. The environment, the people, the coaches all just felt right for me. My parents were very pleased with what they saw, as well."

Dunklin stated that the adjustment on the playing field was not a difficult one going from PRCC to Charleston Southern. He commented, "It was rather easy getting adjusted academically. Both SSC and PRCC prepared me well for the challenges that I face in the classroom. The football field became very even. At this level, everyone is as fast as you are. The strategies are different, however, it is a much more intellectual game on this level. The type of offense that we run here was basically the same that I had run in high school and junior college. The only thing different is the terminology."

The team has a new coach coming in this season but Dunklin stated that the offense won't change much due to many of the same

philosophies. They will continue to run a one-back set with three and four wide receivers at times. Charleston Southern will have an opportunity to increase last season's record of 4-8 with key starters returning. On offense they lose a wide receiver and three lineman. All skill positions return, including the quarterback, and two lineman. The loss on the offensive line could be a problem; however, Dunklin states that several players with extensive game experience provide stability coming back. On defense they have the entire defensive line and linebacking corps returning. Some defensive backs will have to be replaced but the nucleus of the team is returning for a run at the conference title.

Dunklin laid out his goals for the gridiron stating that the first one is to win the Big South Conference. Individually, a first-team all conference selection would be nice, possibly an All-American bid, and, if possible, a tryout with a professional team. However, if pro ball doesn't come calling, Dunklin is prepared. He is scheduled to graduate on time in May of 2004 with a degree in Business Management.

Dunklin's mother, Lisa, commented on her son's transition from the sleepy town of Bay St. Louis to the bright lights of Charleston, "We are very proud of Aaron and all that he has accomplished. We hope for nothing but the best for him. He is a very determined young man."

"Whatever he has set his heart and mind upon, he works hard until he achieves it. St. Stanislaus gave him the confidence that whatever he strives for, he can attain that."

With being a returning starter for Charleston Southern, Dunklin will

have the opportunity to lead the younger players. He will have the opportunity to travel to other schools and experience different envi-

ronments that will broaden his scope of the world. Will Aaron Dunklin make the professional ranks of football? That very well could

be a possibility. But, if he doesn't it is not because he hasn't tried for it. Keep up the excellent work, Aaron. Congratulations!

NOTIFICATION OF PUBLIC MEETING

TO DISCUSS
THE PEARLINGTON WATER AND
SEWER DISTRICT'S

APPLICATION WITH
Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL
REVOLVING LOAN FUND PROGRAM

Pearlington Water and Sewer District has filed an application for funding through the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality Water Pollution Control Revolving Loan Fund Program. The specific elements of this action are the construction of a sewer collection and treatment system located within the Pearlington Community in Hancock County, Mississippi.

The citizens of the Pearlington Community in Hancock County will have an opportunity to become acquainted with the proposed project and to make comments on such items as economic and environmental impacts, service area, and alternatives to the project.

The public meeting will be held in the Civic Center at the Human Services Complex on Longfellow Road, Bay Saint Louis, Mississippi on Wednesday, March 5, 2003 at 2:00 PM (Local Time).

Wildcats top in state after 92-59 East Central blowout

THE SEA COAST ECHO

Pearl River Community College's Wildcats took over sole possession of first place in the men's MACJC South Division basketball derby here Thursday, blowing out East Central 92-59 in M.R. White Coliseum.

PRCC entered the contest as deadlocked with Southwest for the division lead, but the Bears fell 80-72 to Hinds on Thursday moving the Wildcats to the top spot. With the lopsided victory, the Pearl River men avenged their 81-77 loss to ECCC to open both squads' division schedule in Decatur on Dec. 5. PRCC improved to 16-3 overall

and 6-2 in league play, while the Warriors dropped to 10-8 and 4-4.

The Lady Wildcats opened the night's action with a hard-fought 69-60 victory over the Lady Warriors to improve to 15-4 overall and 5-3 in the division, while ECCC dropped to 10-8 and 4-4. East Central's women took a nine-point victory of its own Dec. 5 at home with a 65-56 win over PRCC, marking the Lady Wildcats' first defeat of the season.

Six more South Division foes all in succession are on line for Pearl River to wrap-up its regular season. Southwest plays

host in Summit Monday, Feb. 3 (women 6 p.m., men 8 p.m.), while Mississippi Gulf Coast visits Thursday, Feb. 6 (women 6 p.m., men 8 p.m.). Co-Lin plays host Feb. 10, while Hinds visits Feb. 13. PRCC takes on Meridian on the road Feb. 17, following by a visit from Jones Feb. 20 in the regular season finale.

The women's and men's 2003 MACJC State Tournaments will be held Feb. 24-27 at the women's South Division champions' home court, while this year's Region XXIII events will be held March 3-6 at Mississippi College in Clinton.

Commercial red snapper season opens

THE SEA COAST ECHO

The commercial fishing season for red snapper (*Lutjanus campechanus*) opened Feb. 1 and will close Feb. 10 at noon.

Thereafter, the season will open the first day of the month at noon and close the 10th day of the month at noon or until the National Marine Fisheries Service determines the quota of red snapper has been reached.

The season may close before the 10th of any given month if the quota of red snapper has been reached.

The Mississippi Department of Marine

Resources is dedicated to enhancing, protecting and conserving marine interests of the state by managing all marine life, public trust wetlands, adjacent uplands and waterfront areas to pro-

vide for the optimal commercial, recreational, educational and economic uses of these resources consistent with environmental concerns and social changes.

PCI Ladies Golf results

Pass Christian Isles Ladies Golf Association Jan. 14 "Thow Out Worst Hole Each Nine" winners include: Nancy Hanby, first; Peggy Jones, second; and Jolee Burris and June Hardy, third.

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SPORTS

Pass beats SSC 63-54 as Rocks honor former greats

SSC honors former basketball alumni from the '40s to today

BY JOSEPH W. GEX II
Staff Writer

The Pass Christian Pirates were not swayed by the fact the St. Stanislaus Rock-a-chaws had some of their most famous players in attendance on Friday night. The crowd swelled to 1,400-plus in the gymnasium for the night's activities. The Pirates took the battle to the #3-ranked Rock-a-chaws and came away with a 63-54 upset win in the Brother Peter Memorial Gymnasium.

The night was highlighted by the honoring of former coaches, the 1944-45 state semi-final team and recognition for, perhaps, the greatest player to ever wear a St. Stanislaus basketball uniform - Curtis St. Mary.

During halftime of the varsity game, SSC honored all those in attendance that had played on the hardwood for the Rocks. They represented teams from the 1940's through present day with over 100 players in attendance. During the 1944-45 season, the Rocks advanced to the state semi-finals in Jackson. What is so impressive about that accomplishment was the fact that the basketball state championship was comprised of just one classification - all schools competed against each other no matter the size.

Members of that state semi-final team honored Friday were Pat Wilson, Sellers Meric, Jim Smith, Rudy Nieto, and Buddy Gulatto. They were presented with game ball signed by the 2002-03 Rock-a-chaw team and head coach Jay Ladner. The team also honored all former coaches of the Rocks in attendance and were presented plaques signifying their dedication to the game of basketball at SSC. Those honored were Coach Billy Murphy, Coach Jerry Spell, former SSC all-star and current Assistant Principal Church Genin, and SSC coaching legend Bob Cuccaro.

The final presentation of the halftime festivities was presented to arguably the best player in history - Curtis St. Mary. He has the distinction of being the only player in SSC basketball history to have his jersey #10 retired. Some of his individual game records that still stand are 19 field goals attempted, 28 rebounds, 21 free throw attempts, 15 made free throws, and 56 points scored in one game. His scoring record is still a Hancock County record to this day, as well. St. Mary was presented a plaque commemorating these accomplishments.

St. Mary recalled, "This was the first time that I had been back to SSC since playing in an alumni game 13 years ago. The school has grown but the people have remained the same. They are the same loving and caring people that I remember during my years here. It was a sense of happiness to return to a place that I once called home. I enjoyed meeting all the alumni players that came before me and after me. I love St. Stanislaus."

The living legend of SSC basketball also commented on the game, "Apart from the fact that they played

very well tonight, I think there was some tremendous pressure on the team. The pressure to represent us, the alumni in the stands, and to play well for us. The nervousness caused by that affected them. However, to be down as much as they were to Pass Christian and come back and take the lead showed their heart and character. I was very impressed with them."

The Pass Christian Pirates jumped out on the Rocks in the first half behind Billy Crawford's 17 points. The Pirates took a 19-6 lead at the end of the first period with a 10-0 run to end the period. The Pirates held the Rocks scoreless during the final 2:39 of the first period.

Mario Faranda scored eight points for the Rocks in the second period but the biggest shot came from Crawford who nailed a three-pointer at the buzzer to give the Pirates a 29-18 halftime advantage. The Rocks had cut into the Pirates' lead and Faranda made it an eight-point game

with :11 left before Crawford gave the momentum back to the Pirates.

The two teams battled in the third period but the Pirates started to ease ahead during the final four minutes and got up by as many as 16 points 41-25 with 2:17 left. But, SSC small forward Sam Tart had other things in mind as he scrambled for loose balls, rebounds, and scored five points to help bring the lead back to down to 10 points 41-31 by the buzzer.

The fourth period saw the Rocks ignite and storm back against the Pirates. SSC took the lead 50-49 on a Sam Tart basket with 2:37 left in the game. The Rocks used a 25-8 run sparked by team effort to take the lead. Darius Acker hit a three-pointer to cut the lead to eight points 45-37 with 6:20 left. Then, Rob Murray nailed two crucial treys in less than a minute to cut the lead down to three points 49-46 with 4:31 left. Baskets by Ben Benvenuti and Tart gave SSC the lead at that point. But, it may

have taken too much out of the tank for the Rocks.

Some defensive breakdowns by SSC gave way to easy baskets for the Pirates and they reclaimed the lead quickly. The Pirates nailed their free throw attempts down the stretch to make the difference in the score.

SSC head coach Jay Ladner recalled, "The Pirates worked on us inside during the game and made some key free throws down the stretch. When we took the lead by one, we followed it with a defensive breakdown that gave them the lead right back. They regained the momentum and we didn't make the plays we needed to. This will be a gut check for us. We have to figure out who we are. A champion will bounce back from this and if we are not champions then we won't bounce back. We have a huge game at Gautier on Tuesday night. We are tied with them for the division lead right now. If we can win that game we will still be in the running for the #1 seed in the division tournament."

Leading the way for the Pirates was Billy Crawford with 21 points followed by Chad Musgrove's 16 points. Garland Stewart fouled out with 10 points in the book. SSC was led by Darius Acker's 17 points followed by Mario Faranda's 14 points. Gabe Willis scored 10 points in the loss while Sam Tart added 9 points.

The Bay High Tigers split two games with the visiting Gautier Gators on Friday night.

The top-ranked Bay High girls (25-1) defeated the Lady Gators 69-37 behind Carmen Labat's 29 points. Kendra Reed scored 23 points, hauled in 6 rebounds and three steals for Bay High. In the boys game, the Gators used a huge third period when they scored 20 straight points to break open a close game and finish with a 73-50 win in division action. Bay High scored just one basket in the third period.

Lorenzo Lewis scored 18 points and Marquez Singleton added 17 points

for the 4-17 Tigers (3-6).

The Hancock Hawks got a much needed win in Kiln on Friday night against Oak Grove. The Hawks posted a 76-73 win over Oak Grove and will face the Warriors again in the opening round of the division tournament.

Jeremy Strief hit a three-pointer at the buzzer of the first period to tie the score at 18-18.

After that, defense and domination on the boards brought the win home before a packed house in Kiln.

The Warriors took a slim 33-32 lead at halftime behind consecutive three pointers; however the Hawks had the lead at the end of three 50-47 behind the scoring of Levi Ladner. Strief nailed crucial free throws with just seconds remaining to ensure the win for Hancock. On Tuesday, the Bay High Tigers will travel to D'Iberville to tangle with the Warriors. The Rocks will travel to Gautier in a crucial division contest to decide the tournament seedings.

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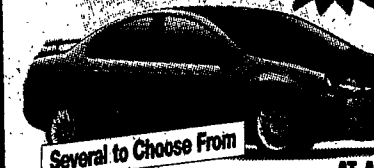
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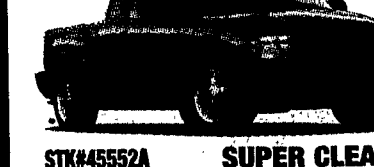
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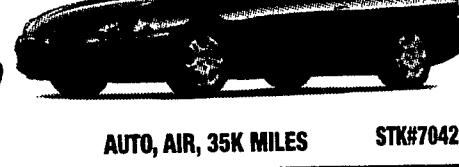
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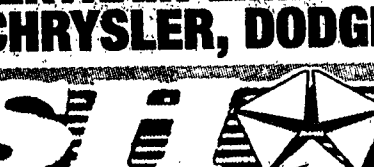
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Collage, sculptures, black firsts exhibited at Bay library for Black History Month

THE SEA COAST ECHO
Labat: A Creole Legacy, by local artist Lori Gordon, several locally owned sculptures by Bay St. Louis native Richmond Barthé, and biographies of Bay St. Louis' black firsts will be on display, beginning Tuesday, February 11, at the Bay St. Louis-Hancock County Library in celebration of Black History Month.

The fabric collage tells the story, through images and text of the life of the Labat Creole family in Bay St. Louis.

Spanning five generations and chronicling events over a time period of a century and a half, this unique piece is an historical narrative as well as a work of art.

The collage grew out of the artist's friendship with Celestine Labat, 104-year-old resident of Bay St. Louis. Gordon was immediately captivated by Labat's stories about growing up in the early days of the 20th century.

"Miss Teeny (as she is affectionately called)," said Gordon, "opened up a whole new world for me, a world of which I had no experience and very little knowledge."

As the friendship developed, Gordon executed a series of portraits of Miss Teeny and began recording her stories on audiocassettes.

Further meetings led to a perusal of her family photographic albums, and the idea for the fabric collage was born.

Over the next 18 months, Gordon continued to record Labat's stories and began the long process of transcribing the tapes. She scanned photographs and reproduced them on specialty paper. The images were then transferred to pieces of cotton cloth and each one was individually hand hemmed, then hand sewn onto pieces of backing cloth.

The same process was used for the sections of the collage that contain the text. Finally, all of the pieces were secured to a

hand-painted canvas support.

Commenting on the ambitious project, Gordon said she hopes it will serve to expand the viewers' awareness of the fast disappearing Creole culture, as well as please the eye.

"This piece is also intended as a tribute to Miss Celestine Labat," she continued.

Locally owned, never before seen works of Richmond Barthé, Bay St. Louis native and internationally renowned black sculptor, are also on display at the Bay St. Louis-Hancock County Library. The pieces are locally owned by friends and family of Barthé.

Handwritten postcards and letters by Barthé, along with numerous photos and newspaper clippings, will also be available.

These items have been in the library's collection for some time, and some are personal correspondence from Barthé to local residents.

Barthé was one of the most significant black sculptors associated with the Harlem Renaissance. He completed many works that expressed his concern for the racial issues of the day, including *The Tortured Negro* and in monuments to Toussaint L'Ouverture and General Dessalines in Haiti.

During the 1940s, Barthé received many awards and sold pieces to prestigious museums, such as *The Boxer*, which was sold to the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

In 1945, he was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Letters, the first black sculptor to achieve this honor. Douglas Williams, the first black Bay St. Louis police chief, and Louis Piernas, the first black Bay St. Louis postmaster, will also be featured during the exhibit.

More information on the upcoming exhibit can be obtained by calling the Bay St. Louis-Hancock County Library at 467-6836.



From "Labat: A Creole Legacy" by artist Lori K. Gordon. Photo of Celestine Labat as a young girl.

Military Mention

John W. Baughman Jr., the son of Faye Dorman Baughman and John W. Baughman Sr. of Bay St. Louis, recently completed basic training at Fort Jackson, South Carolina.

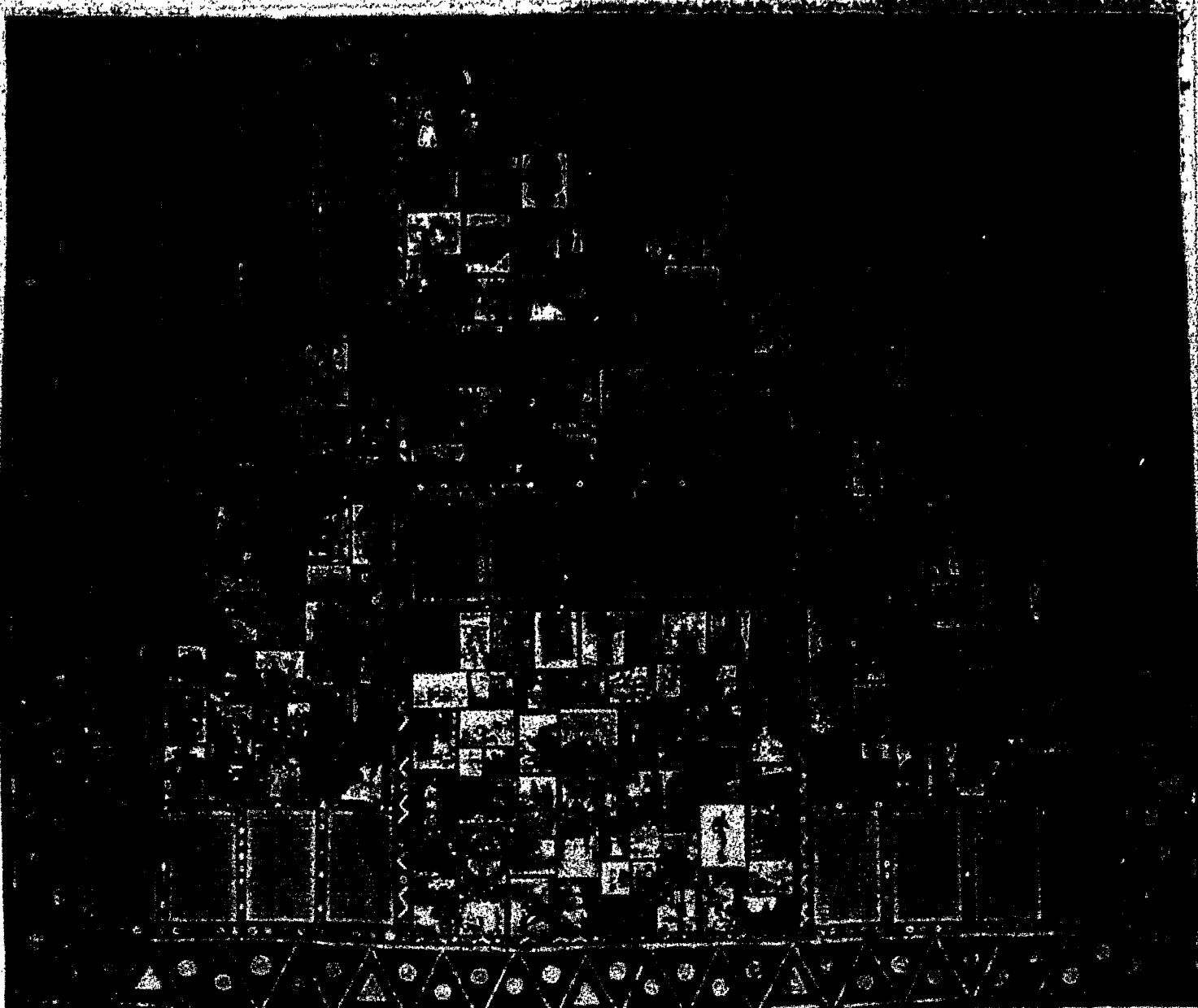
Baughman underwent Airborne Ranger training in the U.S. Army and is now stationed at Fort Benning, Ga.

Baughman is the grandson of Emma Jane Baughman and brother of Ryan Baughman, both of Bay St. Louis.

He is a 2000 graduate of Hancock High School.



John W. Baughman Jr.



Fabric collage on display at the Bay St. Louis branch of the Hancock County Library to honor black Americans.

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<p>96 LINCOLN TOWN CAR "CARTIER" Low Miles, Ex Condition \$9,995</p>	<p>00 FORD WINDSTAR 1 Owner, Captain Chairs, 29k Miles \$13,995</p>	<p>01 FORD F150 SUPER CREW 4X4 16k Miles, 1 Owner, Like New \$23,995</p>	<p>97 NISSAN SENTRA GLE Low Miles, Power Windows, Nice! \$5495</p>
<p>99 FORD WINDSTAR 45k Miles, V6 \$9995</p>	<p>01 FORD WINDSTAR SEL 1 Owner, Low Miles, Dual Power Doors \$19,995</p>	<p>00 LINCOLN LS 1 Owner, Sunroof, Factory Warranty \$19,995</p>	<p>99 VW BEETLE 1 Owner, 42k Miles, CD \$9,995</p>
<p>98 FORD F-150 XLT V8 Only 17k Miles \$12,995</p>	<p>01 FORD RANGER XLT 1 Owner, 9k Miles \$12,995</p>	<p>00 LINCOLN TOWN CAR 1 Owner, Only 10k Miles \$19,995</p>	<p>00 LINCOLN NAVIGATOR 4x4, 1 Owner, 35k Miles \$27,995</p>

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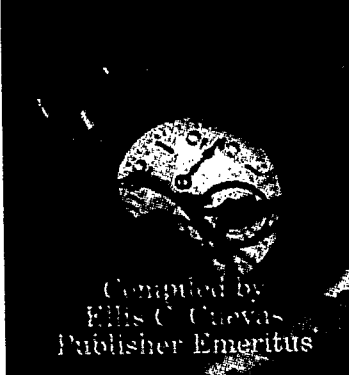
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COMMUNITY

pg 1B

1953 - 'Hole' in bay results in \$740,000 more needed for bridge

Back in Time



TEN YEARS AGO

January 24, 1993 - The city of Bay St. Louis Council approved a small but necessary step in the long anticipated Highway 90 lighting project Tuesday. The State Highway Department was given power to approve the location of lights along the thoroughfare. Mayor Eddie Favre reported bid openings are advertised for February 16 and a March/April completion date is anticipated.

Mrs. Ina Piazza received the United Way's Mae Beyer/J. Norton Haas Sr. Award for her many years of dedicated service to Hancock United Way and its agencies. The presentation was made by David Treutel, Jr., vice-chairman of the Hancock County Operating Committee at the United Way of South Mississippi's annual meeting held at the Diamondhead Country Club.

TWENTY YEARS AGO

January 23, 1983 - Hundreds of Hancock County residents awoke Thursday to discover their homes were completely surrounded by water. Civil Defense, National Guardsmen, sheriff's deputies, and volunteers using boats and trucks spent the day rescuing persons fleeing rising waters caused by an exceptionally high tide pushed by strong winds. The fishing fleet docked at Bayou Caddy was heavily damaged. Many boats sunk while others were pushed up on high ground. Several boats were completely destroyed, as were the autos and trucks owned by the fishermen. Rescuers were called to assist pregnant women, stroke victims, the blind and women with infants in areas covered by water.

FORTY YEARS AGO

January 24, 1963 - Cold, very cold and more cold. So the weatherman predicted yesterday and the temperatures lived up to the forecast, dropping to the freezing point by early afternoon as they started to dive downward to a low around 12 degrees this morning. Most school children got a vacation out of it, but adults wrestled with frozen pipes, balky cars and the threat of more through Saturday.

Early plans for construction of a new courthouse on a site sufficient to provide for parking facilities and future expansion was urged by the January Grand Jury in its report last week. It found present facilities in poor state of repairs, inadequate, and with no feasible means of improvement.

TIME-PAGE 8B



Echo staff photo by Sharon Jenkins

Chuck White, above, takes a break from rehearsals for the upcoming production of "Our Town."



Shannanigans

by Shannon Jenkins
Staff Writer

Pass director dedicates his life to local theater

After moving to the Coast over three years ago, I promised myself I would

audition for a play.

The time finally arrived, and I dragged my friend Cecilia with me to an audition for Center Stage's "Our Town."

We sat several seats away from the stage so we could watch the others audition and whisper to one another who we thought should get what part.

The director, Chuck White, finally called my name to read for one of the male leads.

Gracefully, I descended down the aisle to the stage

with a great deal of confidence, mostly due to Cecilia who had boosted my ego earlier.

I read the lines and ended the dialogue with a flash of my prize-winning smile. Climbing back up the stairs, I could see Cecilia beaming with approval.

"You did so good!" she said as I took my seat.

"Really? You think so?" I asked. I thought I did a good job, too, but one must be humble.

After everyone had a chance to audition, Chuck informed us he would be out of town for the rest of the week and would call us when he got back to assign roles.

On the drive home, Cecilia and I talked about which role I might get. I



Photo courtesy of Chuck White

Chuck White, right, does double duty as both the director and one of the leads in Center Stage's three-man production of "The Complete Works of Shakespeare (Abridged)" in November 2002. Coast performer Wayne Stephens is pictured at left.

didn't necessarily want a lead role because this was basically my first play, but I hoped for a good part.

The following day, Chuck made an extra effort to tell me he definitely would use me in the play, but would let me know which role when he returned.

A few weeks later, the phone call from Chuck finally came, and I waited with anticipation for my glorious part.

"Shannon," he said, "would you mind being a

dead person?" A dead person? I didn't even know their were dead people in the play. "I really bit at that audition," I thought.

"Sure," I said enthusiastically. "I just wanted a small role."

"You might even have a few lines," he said.

Apparently, I had certainly made an impression on Mr. Director. Sadly, it wasn't the one I originally thought.

But, I gladly accepted my

part and was thankful for the opportunity to share the stage with several talented local performers.

Although I failed to impress Chuck White with my stage presence, he certainly impressed me with his ability as a director.

So, I managed to grab some time with the busy director one morning in his Pass Christian home to hear his nearly life-long career in theater.

WHITE-PAGE 4B

Somewhere in North America

There are three lists. One for people who, because of health issues, will not get the small pox vaccine this go-round, a list of people who are going forward, but because of family health issues will receive the vaccination over there.

And then there is the group of people, such as myself, who are not going forward just yet. That is why I had to wait a week before I could get the vaccination.

There are some incidents today that adds a lot to the understanding of what is going on. I have been thinking about this and talking with others

here about the whole process.

I've come to the conclusion that the vaccine we are getting is different then what they gave us as children.

I don't recall exactly how I got the vaccine when I was younger, but now they prick the skin fifteen times. Taking it to the next logical step, I think we are all guinea pigs in a very large study.

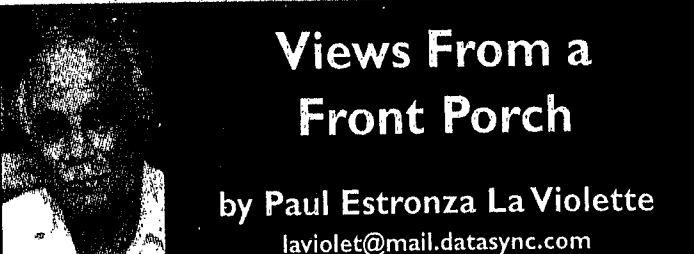
I've come to this for several reasons. The intense computer-based education program that went out before the vaccinations started. Then we had to fill out a survey.

This survey is what

divided everyone into the lists that were made. After the vaccination they gave us a diary that must be filled out every day for four weeks.

The diary must be turned in. And lastly there is a hotline to call if we have any problems. The doctor that came in to use my phone was answering such calls, and I overheard some real interesting conversations.

The other point that was brought out was we are considered to be highly infectious. Our clothes that touch the site are considered infected and we have to take care in washing them. At my doctor's



Views From a Front Porch

by Paul Estronza La Violette
laviolet@mail.datasync.com

appointment today, there were signs asking if we had the vaccination to let the staff know.

When they went to take my blood pressure, the equipment was set up to take it on my left arm, (the vaccination site). We had to shift around to use my right arm. Then when the doctor came in and found out I had the vaccination, they had to leave to ask a technician to rebandage the site before they could examine me.

This concern over infected clothing and what-not does have a sound basis in fact. During the 1800s, when the white man wanted to get rid of the Native Americans, they would give them blankets that had been used by people with smallpox. They killed thousands of Native Americans this way.

Bio-terrorism is not new. But why this concern now and not, as I recall, when I was younger?

VIEWS-PAGE 4B

What's for Lunch?

Feb. 3-7

Bay St. Louis-Waveland School District

Monday: Pancake and Sausage, Cereal, Toast, Fruit Juice

Tuesday: Sausage and Biscuit, Cereal, Toast, Fruit Juice

Wednesday: Grits and Hashbrowns, Cereal, Toast, Fruit Juice

Thursday: Grilled Cheese Sandwich, Cereal, Toast, Fruit Juice

Friday: Cinnamon-Raisin Biscuit, Cereal, Toast, Juice

LUNCH

Monday: Macaroni and Cheese with Ham Chunks, BBQ Pork Burger, Black-eyed Peas, Buttered Corn, Frozen Fruit Juice, Fresh Apple, Yeast Roll, Devil's Food Delight

Tuesday: Southern Fried Chicken, Cheeseburger, Broccoli and Rice Casserole, Buttered Carrots, Peach Slices, Fresh Fruit bowl, Yeast Roll

Wednesday: Chicken Pot Pie, Corn Dog, Turnip Greens, Spicy Fries, Fruit

cocktail, Pineapple Tidbits, Yeast Roll, Jell-O with Topping

Thursday: Spaghetti with Meat Sauce, Chili Dog, Buttered Corn, Garden Salad with Dressing, Mandarin Fruit Cup, Fresh Orange Smiles, Chocolate Pudding

Friday: Chicken Nuggets, Tuna Salad with Lettuce and Tomato, Creamed Potatoes, Buttered Peas, Frozen Fruit Juice, Fresh Fruit bowl, Chocolate Chip Cookie, Yeast Roll

Hancock

North Central Gulfview

Charles B. Murphy and East Hancock Elementary Schools

Served daily:

Bread, Dessert, Milk and Condiments

BREAKFAST

Monday: Cereal with Toast or PB and Uncrustables, Juice

Tuesday: Cereal with Toast or Pancake Pup, Juice

Wednesday: Cereal with Toast or Grilled Cheese Sandwich, Juice

Thursday: Cereal with Toast or Breakfast Biscuit, Juice

Friday: Cereal with

Toast or Breakfast Pizza, Juice

LUNCH

Monday: Red Beans and Rice with Sausage, Rib Patty Sub, Baked Tater Tots, Southern Greens, Coleslaw, Peaches, Fruit Juice, cornbread, Chocolate Pudding

Tuesday: Lasagna, Deli Turkey Pobo, French Fries, Whole Kernel Corn, Tossed Salad, Chilled Pear Slices, Fruit Juice, Garlic Yeast Rolls, Crackers, Oatmeal Cookies

Wednesday: Vegetable Soup with Grilled Cheese Sandwich, Pork Roast with Gravy, Tater Tots, Fresh Broccoli, Tossed Salad, Applesauce, Fruit Juice, Cornbread, Crackers, Blueberry Crisp

Thursday: Chicken Patty on Bun, Hamburger, Creamed Potatoes, Green Peas, Tossed Salad, Apple Slices, Fruit Juice, Crackers, Jell-O

Friday: Frito Pie, Pizza, French Fries, Steamed Carrots, Tossed Salad, Chilled Fruit, Fruit Juice, Trail Mix

Hancock High and Middle Schools

Served daily:

Chef Salad, Bread,

Dessert, Milk and Condiments

LUNCH

Monday: Red Beans and Rice with Sausage, Cheeseburger, Rib Patty Sub, Baked Tater Tots, Southern Greens, Coleslaw, Peaches, Fruit Juice, cornbread, Chocolate Pudding

Tuesday: Lasagna, Deli Turkey Pobo, French Fries, Whole Kernel Corn, Tossed Salad, Chilled Pear Slices, Fruit Juice, Garlic Yeast Rolls, Crackers, Oatmeal Cookies

Wednesday: Vegetable Soup with Grilled Cheese Sandwich, Hamburger, Tater Tots, Fresh Broccoli, Tossed Salad, Applesauce, Fruit Juice, Cornbread, Crackers, Blueberry Crisp

Thursday: Chicken Patty on Bun, Pork Roast with Gravy, Creamed Potatoes, Green Peas, Tossed Salad, Apple Slices, Fruit Juice, Crackers, Jell-O

Friday: Frito Pie, Pizza, Chicken Salad on Bed of Lettuce, French Fries, Steamed Carrots, Tossed Salad, Chilled Fruit, Fruit Juice, Trail Mix

All menus subject to change.

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SSC 'Characters'



St. Stanislaus Dec. Character Award recipients

St. Stanislaus College named six Character Award recipients for December, according to Brother Ronald Hingle, SC, principal, including seventh grader Kevin Scarengos, son of Mr. and Mrs. Kevin James Scarengos of Gulfport; eighth grader Dusty Hoffpauir, son of Mrs. Sharon Lynn Hoffpauir of Perkinston; freshman Ben Rader, son of Mr. William Rick Rader of Bay St. Louis. Also, Elias Alam, son of Mr. and Mrs. José Elias Alam of Merida, Yucatan, Mexico; Junior Stefan Clayton, son of Maria H. Clayton and Ronald J. Clayton, both of Baton Rouge; and senior Allen David Leone, grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Allen Leone, Sr. and Mr. and Mrs. Angelo Leone, Sr. all of Metairie. The SSC Character Award for the Month is a recognition program to acknowledge and honor students who demonstrate positive character traits in an outstanding and consistent manner.

Waveland Little League meets Feb. 9

Waveland Little League is having its general membership meeting for the purpose of elections and possible constitution change on Sunday, Feb. 9 at 6 p.m. in the Civic Center.

Saint Clare Elementary 2nd nine weeks Honor Roll

STRAIGHT A'S

1st Grade: Ashten Anderson, Carmen Kapusinski, Gaelyn Gros, Lindsey Day, Joseph Martina

2nd Grade: Laura Bensabat, Gavin Gros, Emily Gruzinskis, Claudia Kapusinski, Nathan Krammer, Hunter Murray, Bret Reinhart, Wyatt Scott

3rd Grade: Kolleen Aicklen, Nicholas Denette, Jennifer Ginn, Brett Disher, Thomas Murphree, Joshua Williams

4th Grade: Michelle DeFraitres, Sheila Kapp, Toni Lotz, Johnny Kelly

5th Grade: Briou Bourgeois, Brianna Wilson

6th Grade: Rachel Courtault, Bryan Lynch, Cady Reinhart, Solomon Twiggs, Sabrina Bradford

ALPHA

1st Grade: Anne Murphy, John Longo, Louis Gomez, Chase Zimmerman, Destin Aime, Dustin Heitzmann, Grant Adam, Kaylee Michel

2nd Grade: Robert

Courtiade, Kayla Coker,

Rachel Forestier, Justin Hoda, Michael James, Ben Kapp, Morgan Fiorello, Bingham Wikoff

3rd Grade: Nicholas Bensabat, Brienne Bourgeois, Ashton Aime, Cali Longo, Corrine Huthoefer, Taylor Necaise, Taylor Newton

4th Grade: Magan McClellan, Brandon Odom, Hannah Wikoff, Brandon Bunol, Kendall McDonald, Newman Forestier, Kaylyn Hall, Natalie Daspit, Christopher Frigo

5th Grade: Amanda Ginn, Brittany Krammer, Logan Schaefer, Nikki Wild

6th Grade: John Smuck, Samantha Bradford

BETA

1st Grade: Brianna Breaux

2nd Grade: Devon Moran, Bryce Dubuisson, Joshua Kergosien, Corey Stinson

3rd Grade: Taylor Bourgeois, Kaycie Cucurullo, Shelby Matranga, Karen Jones, Taylor Turcotte, Jacob Fleuriot, Brady Smith

4th Grade: Justin Ladner, Stephenie Burke, Billy Cotter, Dakota Gugino

5th Grade: Annabelle Kelly, Zed Leslie, Lauren Quakenbush

6th Grade: Bristen Breaux, Chelsea Copeland, Whitney Copeland, Jennifer Liverett



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Marcelite of Eunice, David H. Mandeville, ed in marr. 14, 2002 in Lake Catho Mandeville.

The Rev. officiated. The bride of Dr. Nancy Lafayette, Simon Manu. The groom Mr. and Heitzmann. The bride marriage by For the selected an satin strapl fitted bodice skirt flowed length train ted French which exten back.

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Weddings and Engagements

Heitzmann-Manuel

Marcelite Marie Manuel of Eunice, La. and Neil David Heitzmann of Mandeville, La., were united in marriage December 14, 2002 in Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church in Mandeville.

The Rev. Robert Cavalier officiated.

The bride is the daughter of Dr. Nancy W. Manuel of Lafayette, La. and Edlee Simon Manuel Jr. of Eunice.

The groom's parents are Mr. and Mrs. Carl J. Heitzmann of Bay St. Louis.

The bride was given in marriage by her father.

For the occasion she selected an ivory duchess satin strapless gown with fitted bodice. A full A-line skirt flowed into a chapel-length train from the knotted French raffeta sash which extended down the back.

Maid of honor was Olivia Clegg of Mandeville, and matron of honor was Melissa Burleigh of Crowley, La., sister of the bride. Bridesmaids included Julia Dauzat of Marksville, La., Marla Favalor of Metairie, sister of the bride; Carolyn Kirk of Baton Rouge, Emily Eanes of Snellville, Ga., and Christina Thoda of Germantown, Tenn.

Flower girl was Jennifer Marion Burleigh, godchild of the bride.

Best man was Casey

Heitzmann of Bay St. Louis, brother of the groom; and ushers included Lee Seal, Leo Seal; Scott Gelphi and Scott Oliphant.

Groomsmen were Carl Heitzmann, father of the groom; Scott Heitzmann, brother of the groom; Kenny Monti, cousin of the groom; Drew Scafide and Charles Oliver, friends of the groom, all of Bay St. Louis; and Adam Hubble of Mandeville, friend of the groom. The bride attended St. Edmond High School in Eunice and is a Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, graduate.

The groom attended St. Stanislaus and is also an LSU, Baton Rouge, graduate.

A reception was at Restaurant & Spirits 124 in Mandeville.

A rehearsal dinner was hosted in Nuvolari's Italian Restaurant in Mandeville.

An engagement party

took place Oct. 12 at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Mike Simon in Eunice.

A bridal shower Oct. 20

at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Monti in Bay St. Louis was hosted by Kathleen LeBlanc, Martha Merrigan, Jean Scafide, Mimi Rhodes and Kathleen Monti. A Honey-Do Shower

took place Nov. 6 at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Scott Heitzmann in Bay St. Louis

hosted by Casey



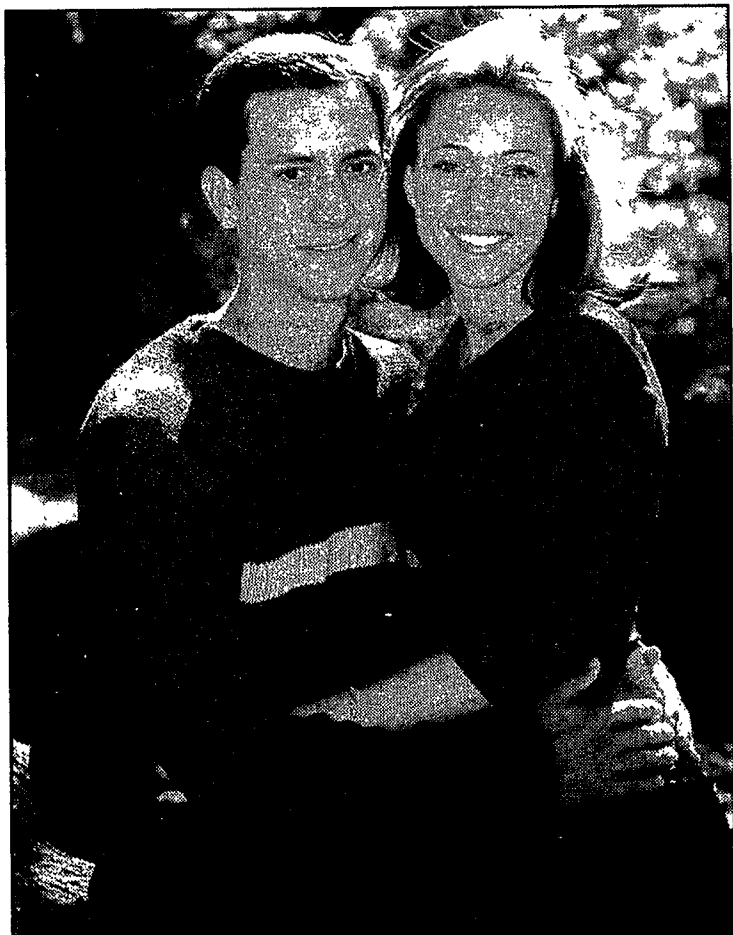
Mrs. Neil Heitzmann

Heitzmann, Laura Heitzmann and Scott Heitzmann.

A stock-the-bar shower was Friday, Nov. 29 at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Oliver in Bay St. Louis in honor of Neil Heitzmann and Marcie Manuel and Kenny Monti and Jill Peterson, hosted by all their friends.

A bridal luncheon was hosted Dec. 1 at Oakbourne Country Club in Lafayette, hosted by Debbie Alexius, Edythe Martin, Susan Hubbard, Lois Staggs and Volna Louviere.

After a wedding trip to Barbados, British Virgin Islands, the couple will reside in Mandeville.



Janelle Eastham and Edward Santinelli III

Eastham-Santinelli

Dennis and Cindy Lamb and Michael and Christine Eastham of Long Beach announce the engagement and forthcoming marriage of Janelle Ann Eastham, to Edward Joseph Santinelli III, son of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Santinelli of Bay St. Louis.

The bride-elect is a graduate of Olympia High School, Stanford, Ill., and Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College. She is employed with Arbor Properties Inc.

The prospective groom is a Bay High School graduate and attended Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College and the University of South Alabama.

He is employed with Lowes.

The wedding will take place April 5, 2003 at 2 p.m. in Our Lady of the Gulf Catholic Church in Bay St.

Louis.

A reception will follow next door in the community center.

Valentine concert at Trinity Episcopal

The original compositions of pianist/composer Jim Ballard will be featured in a Valentine "Sounding Celebration" on Friday, February 14, at 8 p.m. at Trinity Episcopal Church, 125 Church Avenue, Pass Christian. Suggested donation is \$10.

Ballard is a former Bay St. Louis resident and teacher of piano and voice on the Coast. He served as a music minister at Keesler Air Force Base, director of music at Diamondhead United Methodist Church

and accompanist for the Bay Area Chorale.

He holds a music degree from USM. As a composer, he has written songs and choral works and collaborated on a musical. His work has been performed in the U.S. and Europe.

In 2002, he released a CD with Sarah Benson titled "MOTHER, GAIA, MAGA: Healing Music for the Earth. He was an architect for 20 years before turning to music and sound healing.

For information, call Holly Hayden, 467-7285.

Wholistic Wellness group meets Friday at MS Power

The next meeting of the Wholistic Wellness Network will be Friday, February 7 at the Mississippi Power Company conference room, 30th Avenue and Highway 90, Gulfport, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

The featured speaker is

Jim Ballard, a musician and spiritual practitioner. His topic is "Healing through Sound." All are welcome. There is no charge to attend.

For information on the meeting, call Holly Hayden, 467-7285.

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White -- Pass man dedicates his life to theater

Chuck was first exposed to theater as a teenager in his central Illinois hometown of Sullivan, where a local man had turned an old movie cinema into a summer stock theater. Each summer the theater would attract professional stage actors to his town, and Chuck became intrigued with the whole industry.

"I was a freshman in high school when I plugged into theater as an audience member," he said. "Some people just connect with theater. I liked the sets and the acting. It was very exciting to me."

His first involvement with theater was during his senior play. Later in college, Chuck decided to pursue a theater minor in addition to his English major. Although he expected to be a high school English teacher, Chuck still hoped for the opportunity to direct plays.

It was during his college years that Chuck was introduced to "Our Town." Among other duties, he landed the role of the constable. Even at that age, Chuck apparently had more theatrical talent than myself. But, I digress.

After college, he accepted a teaching position in Lawrenceville, Ill., where the band director coaxed him into directing "Hello, Dolly."

"It just about killed us," Chuck said. "Musicals are difficult to begin with, and this school had no theater department."

On top of designing several different sets, acquiring or making period costumes, and dealing with a large cast, Chuck had to work with a cast full of stu-

dents who equaled my own talent.

"We were recruiting people with no theater experience," he said. "We had to teach them to dance and act."

All of Chuck's hard work paid off.

"The show turned out very well for what people

on a production of "The Glass Menagerie," Chuck and three of the cast members began talking about starting a new community theater on the Coast.

"We wanted to do more contemporary theater than what the other theaters were willing to do at the time," he said. "If they did

Roof."

Chuck said the show was so well-received, the performances were extended.

Gradually, the theater began to accumulate its regular patrons.

"It was a slow process," he said. "It took people a while to decide they wanted to come regularly."

Center Stage began with four performances of each show, with the exception of the first. Over the years, the theater extended its performances to 10 per show.

As the audience grew and Center Stage became a popular venue to see local talent, the time came to move into a larger, better equipped building.

"We spent 15 years in that old, falling down building," Chuck said.

This time, the founders decided to build its theater from scratch. They found a location at 240 Eisenhower Drive in Biloxi to build an approximate 5,400-square-foot theater complete with two dressing rooms, a storage room, a lobby with a concession stand and a lighting booth. Center Stage now had a seating capacity of 156. At the same time the theater was being completed, local performers were running around the building preparing for a show and constructing three different sets.

"It just about killed us opening it," Chuck said. "We had the basic headaches of opening a new building on top of opening a show. We were running on very little sleep."

With or without sleep, the founders re-opened Center Stage in 1990 at its current location and pre-

Center Stage presents "Our Town"

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were expecting," he said. "I was exhausted but exhilarated."

The following year, Chuck directed "Our Town" at a different school.

In 1972, he moved to Pass Christian in search of a warm place to start a writing career. His first night in town, however, led Chuck on another path.

He attended a performance at Gulfport Little Theatre, where a friend was involved in the play.

Soon, Chuck began working with the theater. He served as an assistant director, did tech work and took small roles. He even took the opportunity to direct "Hello, Dolly" again.

One year, while working

anything new, they would cut out anything likely to be offensive. We didn't want to be stuck with doing only family stuff. We wanted to do shows that appealed to a mature audience."

It took six months to a year for Chuck, Martin and Dot Miazza, Keith and Becky Morton, Chester Delacruz and Jo Love Little to organize the new theater.

These zealous thespians rented an auto body shop building on Cowan Road in Gulfport for \$187 a month and installed rusty, old seats from a defunct Gulfport movie theater.

In 1975, Center Stage opened its doors to the public with its first performance — "Cat on a Hot Tin

Views

I suspect part of the reason is that since the bulk of the U.S. military is under the age of thirty, they have never been vaccinated! The potential for third party contamination is enormous.

But it was the diary that really got me thinking that the vaccine is different. We have to record what the site looks like, whether we have muscle aches, joint aches, chills, fever (record the temperature), a grand total of ten different reactions, plus what does the site itself look like.

Now, I could be wrong, there are several reasons for conducting a study like this. The first is that the only data they have is over thirty years old.

Second, they have indeed changed either the vaccine, the vaccinating process, or both. A third point is that there are so many unvaccinated people, they wanted to keep a record to prove to the general public that this is indeed safe. Which brings me to my last point, what a perfect group to study!

Think about it. The military already has everyone's health records. They know the standards of fitness. Most of the people are going forward to a rigidly controlled environment. (It has been described as a prison. Barbed wire fence, heavily armed guards (with dogs), walking, riding in vehicles, and in helicopters, patrolling the encampment.

As George C. Scott said in the movie Bank Shot, "You can run from here to the horizon and we can watch you every step of the way." While the object is to keep others out instead of us in, it accomplishes the same effect.) And finally, they know they will get accurately kept diaries back.

Today is DAY 1. I have a

site that looks like a ruptured pimple with pain at the site and tenderness in the arm.

I've talked with the doctors and reread the material they passed out. This is a live vaccinia virus and is not small pox. I do know it was the same vaccination from the 1970s and 80s.

One person I have spoken to said it was a form of cowpox; another, from the medical field, said that the procedure I described was the exact same as what they were doing in the 1980s when they stopped the vaccination here in the United States.

A third recalled that children did not take baths as frequently when we were growing up as they do now, and it was their mother's responsibility to watch out for the site.

My shirt keeps rubbing the site and caused the vascules (blisters) to rupture on the third day. The drainage continued nonstop for over an hour before blood appeared and a light scab formed. (There was not enough blood to form a complete scab. The blood clotted just enough to slow the drainage until the serous coagulated. (That's the clear part of the blood without the red blood cells.)

Today, either my shirt

stuck to the site or I accidentally hit something and ripped the light scab off. It wept for about another hour before coagulating. No blood appeared so there is still no scab. The pictures in the brochure shows pus-filled blister, my is filled with blood which is why it is weeping. It could be that I still have some immunity and so this is going faster than normal.

I have the characteristic crater scar from my first vaccine, and while I cannot remember the scab, or anything else about it, I seem to recall only getting stuck once.

One person seems to recall a device that had several prongs so it only needed to be done once but the skin was broken in several places. In the handout and from the doctors is the same concern about touching the site and then touching an eye, nose, mouth, and having the vaccinia settle in and scar that area.

Since this itches, (less today than yesterday,) the question I have is; knowing kids will pick at areas that itch, why haven't we seen or heard about people with secondary infection sites?

Michael L.
Somewhere in North America

(Author's Note: My son is

Continued from Page 1B

waiting to be sent over to the Arabian Theater of Operations. He and his unit have been undergoing an intensive series of training for the last three months and are now waiting their group deployment.

Unlike my experiences in the Korean war, he can communicate by e-mail instantly and did so when he was deployed during the early part of the Afghanistan Campaign.

I now receive missives that are signed as coming from Somewhere in North America. What follows is a combination of two that I have received over the last few days.)

Continued from Page 1B

sented Eudora Welty's "The Ponder Heart."

In its 28th year, Center Stage has acquired a very loyal group of supporters, some who have been coming since the first day in 1975. The theater offers five shows during its regular season, a summer fundraiser and two children's shows.

Chuck is now the full-time artistic director and the only founder still actively involved on a regular basis. An executive director, a carpenter, a lighting tech and many more all work together with Chuck to make Center Stage the success it has become.

As for Chuck, who has devoted 28 years of his life to Center Stage, I only hope his tremendous talent as a director and performer will inspire me to be the best dead person ever.

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Society of St. Vincent de Paul St. Clare Conference Hancock County FEMA Notice

Hancock County, MS., has been awarded \$13,618 in federal funds under the Emergency Food and Shelter National Board program to supplement emergency food and shelter programs locally in 2003.

The selection was made by a national board that is chaired by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and consists of representatives from The Salvation Army, American Red Cross, United Jewish Communities, Catholic Charities, USA, National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S.A. and United Way of America. The board distributes funds to help expand food and shelter programs in high-need areas of the country.

A local board made up of Thomas Longo, Waveland mayor, the United Way and other charitable organizations determines how the funds are to be distributed in Hancock County.

Under the terms of the grant, local government or private voluntary organizations receiving funds must: 1) be non-profit, 2) have an accounting system, 3) practice nondiscrimination, 4) have demonstrated capability to deliver emergency food and/or shelter programs, and (if private) have a voluntary board. Qualifying organizations are urged to apply. Hancock County has distributed emergency food and shelter funds previously with Catholic Social Services, Diocese of Biloxi, the Hancock Food Pantry, and St. Vincent de Paul Societies in the area.

Further information on agency participation may be obtained (1) by contacting Emile Comar, St. Vincent de Paul Society, P.O. Box 283, Waveland, MS, 39576; (2) by leaving a message at 228-467-0703. Deadline for agency participation applications is 11 a.m., Feb. 5, at which time the local board will meet at 307c Coleman Ave., Waveland, MS, 39576.

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It's FAFSA time for college hopefuls

As college costs continue to rise due to the state financial budget crunch, securing financial aid becomes increasingly important to Mississippi's prospective college and university students.

"February and March are important months to high school seniors who must complete their financial aid forms to meet the priority deadlines imposed by many schools. The first step students must take to secure financial aid is to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)," explained Ken Smith, executive director of ESF (Education Services Foundation), a non-profit Mississippi-based organization dedicated to making college possible for Mississippi students.

The Department of Education uses the information provided on the FAFSA to determine each student's eligibility for aid from the Federal Student Aid programs such as Pell Grants, Stafford Loans, PLUS Loans, Campus-Based Programs, Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants, Work Study, and Perkins Loans. Many states and colleges also use the FAFSA to award aid from their scholarship programs. Smith noted that the Department of Education encourages students and parents to complete the FAFSA online at

www.fafsa.ed.gov. Those preferring a paper form may obtain one from ESF by calling its CAPP (College Access Planning Program) division toll-free at 1-888-713-3762.

Smith pointed out that the student needs to gather the following items:

- Social Security Number
- Driver's license
- W-2 Forms and other records of money earned
- Student's (and spouse's, if married) 2002 Federal Income Tax Return
- Parents' 2002 Federal Income Tax Return (for dependent students)
- 2002 untaxed income records - Social Security, Temporary Assistance to Needy Families, welfare, veterans benefits records, or unemployment benefit statements
- 2002 bank statements
- 2002 business and investment mortgage information, business and farm records, stock, bond, and other investment record
- Alien registration card (for non-U.S. citizen)

After processing the FAFSA, the Department of Education mails a Student Aid Report (SAR) to the student and sends a copy electronically to the schools the student listed on the FAFSA. Schools use the SAR's Expected Family Contribution (EFC) number to determine if the student will receive federal financial

aid. If the student qualifies, the school prepares a financial aid package to help the student meet his or her financial need which is the difference between the school's cost of attendance (including living expenses), as calculated by the school, and the EFC determined by the Department of Education.

"Free one-on-one counseling to guide students and parents through the maze of determining college costs, locating scholarships, grants and loans, and completing all the paperwork is available through our ESF CAPP Resource Centers. Our counselors can also assist in the areas of vision development, interest and aptitude assessment, career selection and college choice," Smith said.

ESF CAPP resource information is available online anytime at www.esfweb.com, and counselors may be reached by calling the toll-free hotline 1-888-713-3762 weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

"Because ESF is a non-profit Mississippi corporation dedicated solely to helping students go to college, it provides the lowest-cost federal student loans for Mississippi students with moneysaving borrower benefits including up-front savings through fee reduction and interest rate reduction when repayment begins," Smith added.



POPLARVILLE - Pearl River Community College hosted high school counselors from within its six-county district recently on the Poplarville campus. Local counselors met with PRCC school officials and toured the campus to get a better idea of the programs and facilities offered by the community college. Counselors from Hancock and Pearl River counties included from left: E. Jay Harris of Picayune, Tanya Ray of Picayune, Bea Stuart of Picayune, LuBeth Gundlach of Hancock High School, Dr. Jasper Fall of Hancock High School, and Adam Breerwood, Director of Recruitment at PRCC.

Artists wanted for Slidell juried competition

The Slidell Art League of Louisiana will host its Regional Juried Competition juried by Susan Brunner of Brunner Galleries with more than \$2,000 in awards.

Submission by slides or photographs are accepted. Entry deadline is April 6.

For a prospectus, send SASE to Slidell Art League, P.O. Box 936, Slidell, LA 70459 or e-mail

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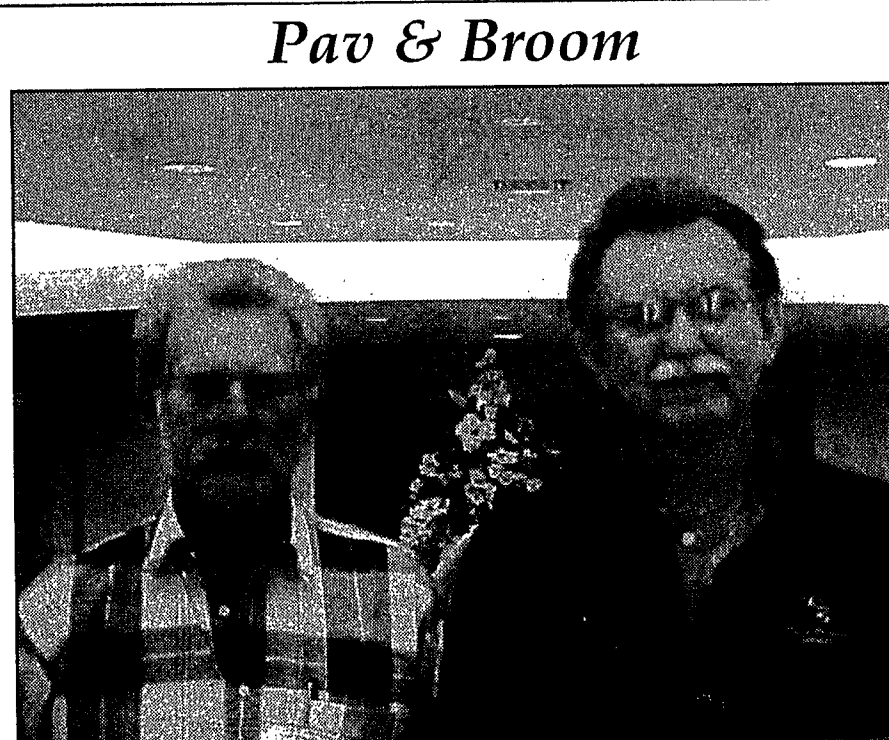
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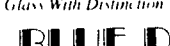
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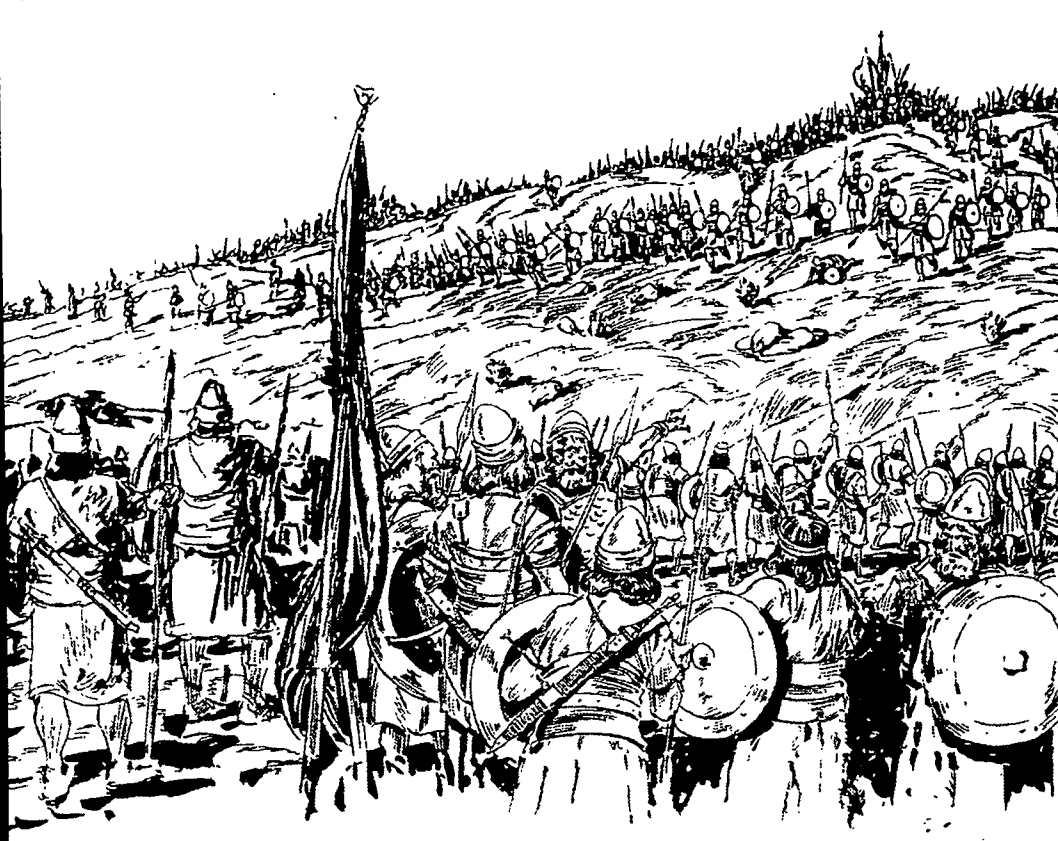
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A TIME FOR WAR

GENERALLY WITH THE FIRST WARM BREEZES OF SPRING CAME THE CLOUDS OF WAR. THE WINTER RAINS AND SNOWS HAD TO BE OVER WITH BEFORE ARMIES COULD MOVE. THERE WAS NO DECLARATION OF THE INTENTION OF WAR BY ONE NATION TO ANOTHER. AN INVADING COUNTRY KNEW IT WAS AT WAR ONLY WHEN ITS PEOPLE SAW THE FIRST TROOPS OF THE MARAUDING INVADERS. THE ISRAELITES WERE STRATEGISTS OF NOTE. THEY DID NOT HAVE THE EQUIPMENT THAT OTHER ARMIES HAD SUCH AS CHARIOTS AND WAR MACHINES, SO THEIR BATTLE PLANS HAD TO BE OUTSTANDINGLY ORIGINAL. HISTORY SHOWS THAT WITHOUT EXCEPTION THE LEADERSHIP OF THE ISRAELITES WAS PAR EXCELLENCE. IN ALMOST EVERY BATTLE THEY FOUGHT THEY WERE NUMERICALLY WEAKER BUT THEIR DARING TACTICS AND THEIR FAITH IN GOD, AS THE POTENT FORCE BEHIND THEM, BROUGHT THEM VICTORY.

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AREA DEVOTIONAL & DIRECTORY PAGES

REFLECTIONS
ON LIFEBy Father Jerome
LeDoux, SVD

When cultures collide

A very young lady was singing a special dedication at the offertory during her grandmother's funeral. Obviously laboring to compose herself and her voice, she went into a tremolo, faltered, then stopped entirely.

Returning to the altar with the bread and wine, I stopped to comfort and encourage her at the lectern, assuring her that her grandmother would want her to be at ease.

Suddenly, I looked up to see a stern young priest who glowered intently at me. "I am the pastor here!" he advised me in a semi-nervous voice which had an evident edge of annoyance. "This Mass is to be said with dignity!"

I stared at him with incredulity, not knowing what to think or say.

Finally, as I came to realize that I was in the presence of someone much more conservative than I, I said nothing, nor did I change my bland facial expression. Instead, he turned away first, again obviously ticked at my presence and manner of conducting a funeral. "This is awful!" he concluded as he walked away, proverbial fumes rising from his head.

I am anything but inhibited during my celebration of Mass, but I became a bit inhibited then, quickly noticing a couple of changes in the music I had planned with the musician and song leader. Of course, I knew instinctively that the uptight pastor had immediately conferred with the music folks and had given them strict guidelines for the rest of the Mass.

Instead of proceeding with my usual abandon in my gestures and manner of expression, I made subtle changes, throttling back from where I generally proceed without reflection. At length, I saw that I was smack dab in the middle of a cultural collision between a conservative Catholic and what must have seemed to the pastor to be a cleric of African-American Hun extraction.

Although there was an initial shock at the sudden turn of events in church, ultimately there was nothing startling here. Some African Americans have the same reaction as the pastor had, because cultural expression is not uniform even within ethnic groups. "Goodness!" I mused, "what would his reaction have been if I had done my usual 'busting out' funeral?"

So, reflecting that the pastor said, "This Mass must be said with dignity," what is dignity? "The quality or state of being worthy, honored, or esteemed," says Webster. So, does that quality have a necessary connection with being reserved, low-keyed in expression? Or can worthiness, honor and esteem be fully addressed in a number of ways, idioms and expressions?

Jesus certainly taught with dignity; yet, sat on the mountain grass to instruct the multitudes (Matthew 5:1). He healed with dignity; yet, it was the same Jesus who smeared spit on a blind man's eyes (Mark 8:23) prior to healing him. He scolded with dignity the would-be stoners of the woman caught in adultery; yet, he wrote with his finger in the soil while he scalded the consciences of those hypocrites (John 8:6).

The same Jesus, who rode into Jerusalem with at least the semblance of dignity on the foal of a jackass, jauntily cheered those on who were shouting Hosannas, admonishing the Pharisees that the very stones would cry out if the people discontinued shouting Hosannas (Luke 19:40).

Worthy, honored and esteemed Jesus was without any formal trappings of dignity.

David was known to be a stately king and formidable warrior, certainly possessing all the attributes of dignity.

Yet, this same King David, girt with a linen apron, did not hesitate to express his great joy before the Ark of the Covenant, dancing with such abandon that King Saul's daughter Michal scolded him after he had offered holocausts, peace offerings and blessings: "How the king of Israel has honored himself today, exposing himself to the view of the slave girls of his followers, as a commoner might do!" (2 Samuel 6:14-23)

"I was dancing before the Lord," David answered. "As the Lord lives, who preferred me to your father and his whole family when he appointed me commander of the Lord's people, Israel, not only will I make merry before the Lord, but I will demean myself even more. I will be lowly in your esteem, but in the esteem of the slave girls you spoke of I will be honored."

As my friend's body was rolled into the hearse, I passed the pastor on my way back to the sacristy, feeling a twang of sadness that our cultures had collided. My typical barometer for the mode of a funeral is the reaction of the family members. If they are elevated spiritually and emotionally, if they are able to smile a bit through faith and hope, I deem the celebration good.

"I feel guilty about saying this, but I enjoyed the funeral," is something I have heard frequently, and want to hear, because we are celebrating the homegoing of one of God's holy ones. According to that winning barometer, we must gauge the blend of the cultural expression of dignity, informality, joy in Jesus Christ, faith, hope and, above all, love.

The "Word" for the Week
Power for living

Dennis J. Prutow • Box 303, Sterling, KS 67579

We all need power for living. Some people seem to have tremendous reserves of inner strength. They exhort us to look in ourselves for that power, the power of positive thinking, etc.

But real power for living, or I should say, any power for living, comes from God.

The Bible promises, "The God of all grace . . . will Himself perfect, confirm, strengthen and establish you" (1 Peter 5: 10).

This is a wonderful promise which is a part of the "Good News" of Jesus Christ. You see, this promise is not for you if you are not a Christian.

If you have not trusted Christ to cleanse you from your sin, and if you have not dedicated your life to following Christ, this promise

is not for you.

You will have to depend on your own reserves of inner strength. But don't get over confident. Sooner or later you will come to the end of your rope. We all do!

Many a nervous breakdown has resulted from a failure to acknowledge this. Turn to Christ right now! Bow before Him! Receive new life from Him! Dependence upon Christ is not a sign of weakness.

Christ is the source of life itself. And if Christ is living in you, "Greater

is He who is in you than he who is in the world" (1 John 4:4).

To hear more on the same topic, call toll free for the "mini-message of the week," 1-800-777-0389 or visit www.w-e-m.org.

"Greater is He who is in you than he who is in the world."

1 John 4:4

St. Ann-St. John Church News

Father John Kelly, pastor, 228-467-4746

Mass Schedule:

St. Ann Catholic Church, Lower Bay Road, Saturday Vigil Mass, 4 p.m.

Sunday masses: St. John Catholic Church, Lakeshore Road, mass at 8 a.m.; St. Ann, 10:30 a.m.

Weekday masses (St. Ann): Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 8:30 a.m.; Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.

Visitors are welcome.

Feb. 3: CCD classes K through 5, 3-4:30 p.m.; 6-12, 5:15-6:15 p.m.

Feb. 3: RCIA class, 7 p.m.

Feb. 16, Children's Mass, 10:30 St. Ann's

Important dates:

Feb. 3: Blessing of Throats after 8:30 a.m. Mass

Feb. 6: Visiting of sick and shut-ins

Feb. 7: First Friday. Benediction and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament after 8:30 a.m. Mass until noon.

The annual Pilgrimage to the shrines of Our Lady of Guadalupe and Holy Infant of Good Health Feast Day in Mexico will be April 21-29.

For information, contact Yvonne Garcia at 467-3501.

St. Clare RCIA program a success

"Thanks to everyone who has participated and contributed to the huge success of our St. Clare RCIA program in this inaugural year," said spokesman Bernard Kihnemann.

"We've had a remarkable year. Some 17 candidates and catechumens have been attending weekly classes since the fall and completed their Rite of Acceptance on Dec. 1."

The RCIA program has been

supported by a dedicated group of St. Clare parishioners and Monsignor McGough.

All of the participants are preparing for Lent and for the Easter Vigil Mass when they will receive the sacraments and become full members of the faith.

Between March and Easter the RCIA will be presenting the candidates and catechumens to St. Clare Church and also in the Cathedral in Biloxi.

Visit the church or
synagogue of your choice.

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Stiff tariffs on imports please Mississippi's catfish farmers

BY SHELIA
HARDWELL BYRD
ASSOCIATED PRESS
WRITER

Mississippi catfish farmers on Monday applauded a federal ruling to impose tariffs up to 64 percent on imported Vietnam catfish.

In its preliminary ruling, the Commerce Department said Vietnam has illegally dumped catfish on the American market and should face penalties.

The Catfish Farmers of America, representing many catfish farms in the South, complained that Vietnam has unfairly captured 20 percent of the \$590 million U.S. frozen catfish fillet market by selling at below-market prices.

"We believe this decision will help to bring some much needed relief to catfish farmers, processors and thousands of workers who may have felt the impact of this unfairly traded product," Hugh Warren, executive director of the Catfish Farmers of America, said in a statement.

Vietnamese producers say their fish costs less, often as much as 30 per-

cent to 50 percent, because of lower labor and feed costs. A final government decision is expected this summer.

State catfish farmers, faced with falling prices and oversupply, have been pushing for the tariffs to level the playing field.

Department that an unfair ruling could hurt broader trade links between the two countries. Communist Vietnam has been slowly moving toward a market economy, and pledged in a trade agreement with the United States last year to open its markets to global

2001. That number was expected to double in 2002. Mississippi is home to 110,000 acres of catfish farms.

Andrew Foreman, president of Infinity Seafoods Inc. of Franklin, Mass., is an importer of Asian fish and disagrees with CFA's argument that fraudulent practices have hurt the U.S. catfish industry.

He said the Commerce Department's ruling to impose tariffs, if it stands, would further exacerbate the problems the U.S. industry now faces.

"That's going to drive a wedge further into the consumers down South that already are having a hard time swallowing the price of domestic catfish," Foreman said. "It's only going to force people to buy Vietnamese even more."

Foreman predicts both sides will return to the bargaining table before the Commerce Department issues its final ruling.

"The issue with future trade with Vietnam is now up and in the air," he said. "It has a lot more political implications than people ever expected."

"We believe this decision will help to bring some much needed relief to catfish farmers, processors and thousands of workers who may have felt the impact of this unfairly traded product."

Hugh Warren,
executive director of the Catfish Farmers of America

Louie Thompson has farmed catfish near Yazoo City since 1959. He said he's seen his business decline in recent years, and believes the Vietnam fish is the reason.

"It's hurt us of course," he said Tuesday. Last week, Hanoi warned the Commerce

standards and competition. The penalty tariffs would range from 38 percent to 64 percent on various producers of frozen fish fillets, including regular, shank and strip fillets, the ruling said.

The United States imported 8.2 million pounds of catfish fillet in

USM to commemorate Black History Month

The University of Southern Mississippi will commemorate African-American History month in February with a series of special events, including a University Forum presentation and performance by a black musical group.

"Three Generations," a group of three generations of African-American artists representing unique viewpoints of American folk songs and spirituals, will be featured during a University Forum program Feb. 25 at 7 p.m. in Bennett Auditorium.

The group includes internationally recognized performers Benjamin Matthews, Robert Sims and Kenneth Overton, who will discuss the African-American folk and spiritual music tradition.

The forum program will serve as the annual Armstrong-Branch Lecture, honoring Gwendolyn Armstrong and Raylawni Branch, the first two African-American students to attend Southern Miss.

A vocal ensemble performance by the group will follow Feb. 27 at 7:30 p.m. at the Mannoni Performing Arts Center. Admission is \$20 for adults, \$10 for Southern Miss students, and \$15 for Southern Miss faculty, staff and seniors 65 and older.

Sponsors for Three Generations' visit to

Southern Miss include the Mississippi Arts Commission, the Hattiesburg Arts Council, Partners for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts.

Other African-American History Month events scheduled for the Southern Miss campus include:

Feb. 3: The African-American Student Organization (AASO) will distribute African-American History Month ribbons, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., R.C. Cook University Union Lobby.

Feb. 12: The Southern Miss History Department and Omega Psi Phi fraternity present

"The Black Panther Party: Former Political Prisoners Speak," Southern Miss Polymer Science Auditorium, 7 p.m.

Feb. 19-21: Statewide Unity Summit, Southern Miss campus, sponsored by Southern Miss and the University of Mississippi.

Feb. 27: The Southern Miss NAACP chapter sponsors a march on Kennard-Washington Hall, 12:15 p.m. For more information about African-American History Month, contact the university's Student Activities Office at (601) 266-4403. For more information on the Three Generations University Forum program, call (601) 266-5762.

Views

Continued from Page 1B

FIFTY YEARS AGO

January 30, 1953 - Reports that an additional \$740,000 in bonds must be issued to complete the four-lane toll bridge over Bay St. Louis due to unexpected construction costs, have been confirmed by state highway officials. State Highway director T.C. Robbins said that a "hole" of several hundred feet had been encountered in the bottom of the bay which required a more expensive operation than scheduled. With the additional \$740,000, the amount of the revenue bonds issued for the project will reach \$9,140,000. All will be funded by tolls on the new bridge.

- Niembro Cue, a 3-year-old, owned by Emile J. (Dick) Cue of Bay St. Louis, outran six rivals in the six-furlong top race at the New Orleans Fairgrounds on New Year's Day. The horse, which set the record at Cranwood Park on May 23, 1952, for running the 3/8-mile race in the fastest time on record at any track in the United States for 1952, was bred and raised on the Cue Stock Farm in Bay St. Louis.

SIXTY YEARS AGO

January 29, 1942 - Gasoline and other petroleum products cannot be charged. Must be sold for cash only. Service Stations cannot remain open to service private vehicles longer than 12 hours per day or 72 hours per week. Stations must post hours of opening in a conspicuous place. Trucks may be serviced at all hours.

The Bay High Band has sold \$3,029.85 in stamps and bonds in two weeks of their house-to-house canvas campaign. They have added several streets since they started on January 14. The streets that have been added are: St. Charles, Third, Dunbar and streets in Cedar Point.

There are now 10 crews working on the streets of Bay St. Louis every Monday and Thursday. The members of the band wish to thank the citizens for their kindness and courtesies afforded them on their routes, also the people calling the crews to get their bonds.

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56 Services Offered

BRAD'S DUMP TRUCK SERVICE: Fill dirt, sand, gravel, top soil & limestone. 467-6763.

BULKHEAD'S, BOAT DOCK'S, BOAT launches. 30 years experience. 463-9451, Joe Bourgeois.

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58 Lawn & Garden

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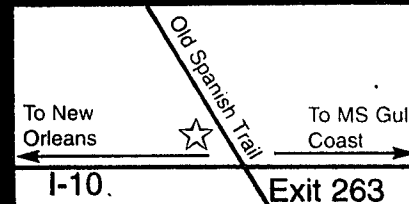
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GENERAL MANAGER, Diamondhead Water & Sewer District: The District, established in accordance with the laws and regulations of the State of Mississippi, is seeking to fill the staff position of General Manager. The General Manager is the senior staff position of the District and reports to a five member Board of Commissioners. The GM is responsible for overall day-to-day management and operation of the District. Duties include, but are not limited to: General Supervision of 25 employees, business management, personnel administration, staffing, reporting and budgeting. Applicants shall exhibit a broad background and extensive experience in management and operation of water and sewer utilities. Business management and budgeting are particularly important. Fringe benefits include paid group medical insurance and an attractive retirement plan available after one year of employment. This is a drug testing position and background investigation is required. This is a salaried position. Salary \$55-75K depending on level of experience. The District includes approximately 85 miles of vitrified clay gravity sewer, 33 waste water pump stations and force mains and a 1.25mm gal/day ADF extended air oxidation ditch waste water treatment plant. 85 miles of PVC and ductile iron water mains, 3 water wells, 1,500 fire hydrants, and a 500,000 water storage tank. District is located on Bay St. Louis which is located in Southwest Mississippi on the gulf coast. Service area is approximately 10 square miles. District serves a planned community of Diamondhead and light commercial users. Community has 8,000 lots of which about 3,500 are developed. Present population is about 8,400 with a build-out population expected to be 15,000 people. The residential community is primarily single family homes and condominiums. New homes construction averages 150/year. The community has a country club, two 18-hole golf courses, large tennis complex, general aviation air strip and marina with yacht club. A commercial complex located at the entrance serves the needs of the community. Submit professional resume and work history with a cover letter including salary requirement to Mr. Jack Cleveland, Chairman, Board of Commissioners, Diamondhead Water & Sewer District, 4425 Park Ten Dr., Diamondhead, MS. 39525. Application deadline February 15, 2003.

PART TIME RECEPTIONIST needed for dental office in Diamondhead. Experience preferred. 255-6657.

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76 Situation/Job Wanted

WOULD LIKE TO WORK AS AN office receptionist. Experience with computers, customer service, type 50wpm, also have CNA certificate & experience filing and office skills. Need to work around college schedule. (Enrolled at Jeff Davis Campus, 6:00-9:00pm. Majoring in business and medical office technology). Please contact Angela at 469-0934, 228-467-7149, or 228-617-5554.

81 Appliances

Perry's Appliance Repair: Stoves, Refrigerators, Washers and Dryers Call 228-332-1073

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83 Items For Sale

BLOUSES, SLACKS Size 24; Shoes size 9; dress B/W lace size 16; Poncho/train coat purse; woman's clothes size 14; king size crocheted spread; records 45-33; round old table 25X21; Conair Id; bras 42 D; Pillow stuffing; robe gown size M; Rosie ornament; shower curtain; party invitations; shakers lead crystal; baby clothes, shoes, two Jima article. 228-467-4694 after 12.

MOVING SALE: CALL 467-1002. Full bed w/and tables (new mattress), 2 trundle beds, end table w/lamp, 2 TV's w/stand, oval oak mirror, walnut bench.

83 Items For Sale

MOVING SALE CALL 467-1002 Ducks in Nest (J. Oris) W-23, L-19; Tropical print W-24-1/2, L-36; armoire; walnut mirror W-19, L-28; Oval table W-42, L-65 and 6 padded chairs; china closet/dishes 8pc set; dry sink; walnut convertible table 2-6 and 2 walnut folding chairs; 2 rattan cocktail tables/glass tops; 1 rattan table 23X23; 1 rattan table 23X20; 1 large lamp H-28, W-10; 2 drawer chest, W-36, D-20.

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84 Furniture

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85 Building Materials

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93 Yard Sale

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96 Wanted To Buy

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NOTICE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES The following vehicles will be sold 30 days after the first publication:

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1/26, 2/2, 2/9/2003

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138 Trucks, Vans

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2 BEDROOM DUPLEX. 2 FULL Baths. Utility room with hook-ups. 1 year lease. \$550.00 includes water. 322 Old Spanish Trail, Waveland. 467-3601.

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2BR/1BA \$435/MONTH. \$350/deposit. 342-1782.

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148 Mobile Homes For Rent

2BR TRAILER FOR RENT, KILN Area. 255-5529.

FOR RENT: 2 BEDROOM TRAILER, cable, utilities furnished \$150/week. \$300/deposit. 463-1872.

2BR/1BA MOBILE HOME 97 MOD-EL partially furnished all electric. North Hancock County. \$350/month \$200/dep. 214-9953.

2BR/1BA TRAILER FOR RENT in Kiln, Pet/free 255-9397.

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149 Mobile Homes For Sale

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150 Unfurn. Houses Rent

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Entertainment

Casino Magic presents Donny Osmond

THE SEA COAST ECHO
BAY ST. LOUIS, MISS. — Donny Osmond, star of music, television and stage, comes to Casino Magic Bay St. Louis Friday and Saturday, February 7 & 8 at 9 p.m. each evening. Tickets are \$14.95, \$19.95 and \$24.95 and are available at Casino Magic Box Office, by calling 1-800-5-MAGIC-5 or at any Ticketmaster location.

For more than 38 years, the world has watched Osmond develop from a cherubic little boy singing on TV with his older brothers to a seasoned performer who always has the power to amaze.

His first appearance was on TV's The Andy Williams Show on December 10, 1963, one day after his sixth birthday. Pop music has gone through seismic changes in the intervening years, and Donny has moved with the times.

By the time he was a teenager he had become one of the most popular and successful stars in the history of pop music. In the 1970s, between his own and the Osmond Brothers recordings, he was awarded 18 gold records. With his brothers, he enjoyed a No. 1 hit with "One Bad Apple" and such blockbusters as "Yo-Yo" and "Down By the Lazy River." On his own, Osmond hit No. 1 with "Go Away Little Girl," and made the top 10 with "Hey Girl" and memorable covers of Paul Anka's "Puppy Love," Roy



Donny Osmond

Orbison's "Sweet and Innocent" and Johnny Mathis' "The Twelfth of Never."

In the 1980s, he spent several years honing his talents as performer and producer, working with the likes of Jeff Beck, Boy George and Chicago. In 1987, Peter Gabriel invited him to record at his studio

in Bath, England. The resulting demos recharged Osmond's recording career, catching fire with the release in 1989 of "Soldier of Love."

Generating new heat in his singing career, he took another important creative step and began taking acting classes. Without realizing it, he was preparing for

one of the greatest successes of his entire career, a Canadian and U.S. tour in the title role of

Sir Andrew Lloyd Webber and Sir Tim Rice's musical "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat."

Although he would have to put everything else on hold, the calculated risk turned into a rewarding, triumphant six-year association. To date, the Joseph original cast recording is quadruple platinum in Canada and recently went gold in the U.S. Last year, the film version of the musical, starring Donny, premiered to stellar ratings on PBS's Great Performances series.

With his sister Marie, Donny had a third wave of hit records and enjoyed yet another kind of success co-hosting a weekly variety TV series.

Donny returned to TV in 1998 with Marie, co-hosting the daytime talk show *Donny and Marie* that enjoyed solid ratings for two seasons. He also released several new albums, including his most recent "Somewhere In Time," that went platinum in just eight days.

Now 45 years old, Donny has been married to his wife Debbie for 25 years, and is also the father of five boys, ranging from 24-year-old Don Jr. to 5-year-old Joshua. Don't miss Donny Osmond at Casino Magic Bay St. Louis February 7 & 8 at 9 p.m. Must be 21.

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The N.O. Boat Show starts Wed.

The New Orleans Boat Show will be staged in the Louisiana Superdome, Gate A, ground level entrance on: Wed., Feb. 5, 5-10 p.m.
Thurs., Feb. 6, 5-10 p.m.
Fri., Feb. 7, 5-10 p.m.
Sat., Feb. 8, 11 a.m.-10 p.m.
Sun., Feb. 9, 11 a.m.-6 p.m.

Admission is adults - \$8, children (6-12 years) - \$3. Tickets may be purchased at the Louisiana Superdome Box Office, and discounted advance sale tickets are available at the Boat/US Ticket Center (877-476-7683) or on line at www.discoverboating.com/neworleans

\$2 off discount coupons, good for adult weeknight admission, are available at participating boat dealers. Parking is \$6 at the Louisiana Superdome Parking Garage.

There will be the latest model boats, motors, engines, personal watercraft, trailers, marine electronics, fishing gear, marine finance and insurance plus everything for family fun on or in the water under one roof.

Special features include: BOAT MOTOR & TRAILER PACKAGE GIVE-AWAY will be a boat motor and trailer package give-away.

Register to win an NMMA certified Hydra Sports boat, Yamaha motor and trailer package on display at the boat show compliments of Boat Stuf, Hydra Sports and Yamaha.

THE WAVE BOX
Watch and learn the many tricks of kayaking including blunts, spins and cartwheels in the world's first portable hydraulic whirlpool.

The Wave Box is a churning 22,000-gallon pool that simulates the white water. This training tool, created by Confluence Watersports, will be the featured activity at the show for attendees.

"THE FISHIN' FEVER COVE"
Daily fishing seminars and casting demonstrations by regional, and national pros at the Travelin' Fish Tank, a 40-foot aquarium stocked with live fish.

CAMP CHEVY FISHING POND
Camp Chevy allows kids to cast their line and catch a catfish in a pond that is stocked with farm-raised catfish that they can catch and release.

DISCOVER BOATING CENTER
Here you will find the answer to any question that you may have about what type of boat will complement your boating lifestyle

and learn why "life is better with a boat." Register to win a \$1,000 cash giveaway at the Discover Boating Center.

SPECIAL APPEARANCES:
Making a special appearance to at the New Orleans Boat Show will be the reigning Miss New Orleans, Mrs. New Orleans and Miss Teen New Orleans along with Mrs. Louisiana. Come meet the ladies and bring your camera for a picture.

For additional information, call the administrative office: 504-780-1818 or visit web site www.discoverboating.com/neworleans

The New Orleans Boat Show is produced by the National Marine Manufacturers Association, the principal trade association of the marine industry.

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Mariah Rasbury, 2 years old

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